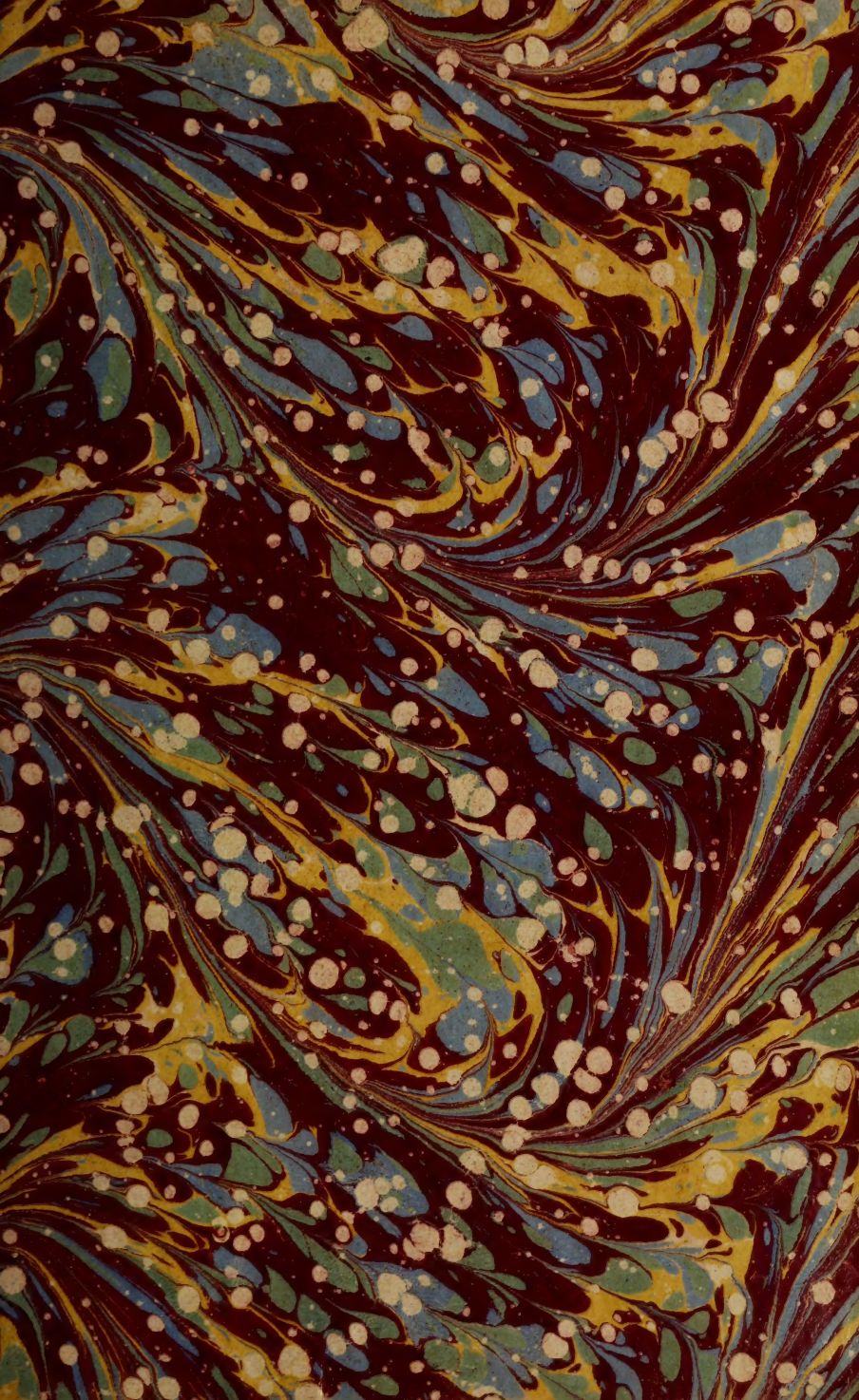


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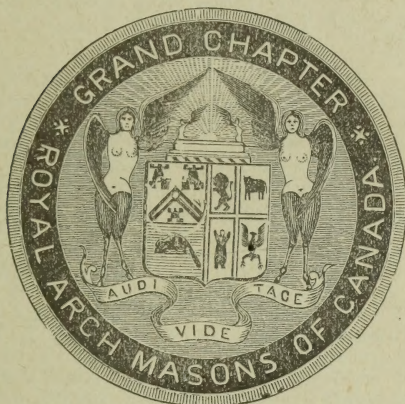
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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND CHAPTER
ROYAL ARCH MASONS
OF CANADA

At the Forty-Sixth Annual Convocation

1904



1904

HELD IN
THE MASONIC HALL, TEMPLE BUILDING,
CITY OF TORONTO, ONT.


WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27TH, A.D. 1904,

A. I. 2434, A. L. 5904.

ORDERED TO BE READ IN ALL CHAPTERS AND PRESERVED

ABRAHAM SHAW, Kingston, Ont.
Grand Z.

GEO. J. BENNETT, Toronto.
Grand Scribe E.



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Grand Chapter of Canada

PROCEEDINGS

AT THE FORTY-SIXTH ANNUAL CONVOCATION OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF CANADA, HELD IN THE MASONIC HALL, TEMPLE BUILDING, CITY OF TORONTO, ON WEDNESDAY, A.D., 1904, A.I., 2434.

PRESENT.

M. E. Comp.	Abraham Shaw	Grand Z.	} Grand Council.
"	" Wm. G. Reid	as Grand H.	
R. E.	" Wm. Roaf	Grand J.	
"	" Geo. J. Bennett	Grand Scribe E.	
"	" P. W. D. Broderick	Grand Scribe N.	
M. E.	" Hugh Murray	Grand Treasurer.	
R. E.	" A. F. Webster	Grand Principal Sojourner.	
"	" George Moore	as Grand Registrar.	
V. E.	" H. T. Smith	Grand 1st Asst. Sojourner.	
"	" W. J. A. Lake	as Grand 2nd Asst. Sojourner.	
R. E.	" J. B. Nixon	Grand Lecturer.	
"	" J. J. Thompson	as Grand Sword Bearer.	
V. E.	" W. E. Brown	as Grand Master 1st Veil.	
"	" R. J. Gibson	as Grand Master 2nd Veil.	
"	" Thos. Smith	as Grand Master 3rd Veil.	
"	" Wm. Wilson	as Grand Master 4th Veil.	
"	" J. McCallum	as Grand Standard Bearer.	
"	" J. W. Seymour Corley	Grand Director of Ceremonies.	
"	" J. T. Wilson	Grand Organist.	
"	" F. E. Luke	as Grand Pursuivant.	
V.	" G. W. Moody	Grand Steward,	
"	" J. Phillips	as Grand Steward.	
"	" J. Woods	as Grand Steward.	
"	" R. Weddell	as Grand Steward.	
"	" R. Roberts	as Grand Steward.	
"	" R. E. Wright	as Grand Steward.	
"	" B. Patterson	as Grand Steward.	
"	" D. Robertson	as Grand Steward.	

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

R. E. Comp.	Ed. Worth, Kent Bridge	St. Clair	Dist. No, 1
"	" John Prain, Harriston	Wellington	" " 4
"	" A. T. Neill, Hamilton	Hamilton	" " 5
"	" J. G. Bottomley, Niagara	Niagara	" " 7
"	" James Bicknell, Toronto	Toronto	" " 8
"	" A. Cameron, M.D., Owen Sound	Georgian	" " 9

R. E. Comp.	R. C. Smith, Port Hope	Ontario	Disct. No. 10
" "	J. G. Fennell, Napanee	Pr. Edward	" " 11
" "	W. H. Mowat, Brockville	St. Lawrence	" " 12
" "	W. A. MacKay, Renfrew	Ottawa	" " 13

A constitutional number of Chapters being represented by their qualified officers, the Forty-sixth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada was opened in AMPLE FORM at 11 o'clock a.m.

R. E. Companion J. Earl Halliwell, from the Committee on Credentials of Representatives, reported that there are 104 warranted Chapters and 4 U. D. on the roll of Grand Chapter, of which number 75 were represented by the following Companions:

No. 1. Ancient Frontenac and Cataraqui, Kingston.

R.E. Comp. W. S. R. Murch, M.E. Comp. A. Shaw, Proxy, P.Z.'s.

No. 2. The Hiram, Hamilton.

E. Comps. Thos. Smith, Fred Staunton, C. V. Emory, J. W. Grant, V.E. Comp. W. E. Brown, R.E. Comps. Geo. Moore, T. M. Davis, Fred Walter, Proxy, P.Z.'s.

No. 3. St. John's, London.

E. Comps. James Tancock, H.; J. H. Wilson, Z.; Oliver Ellwood, P.Z.

No. 4. St. Andrew's and St. John's, Toronto.

E. Comps. W. H. Blight, Z.; R. W. Clewlo, H. S. King, J. G. Boyce, T. B. Cole, J. Glanville, V.E. Comps. H. T. Smith, S. Love, R.E. Comps. J. W. Jones, W. Simpson, P.Z.'s.

No. 5. St. George's, London.

E. Comps. T. H. Baker, H.; A. G. Stephens, Z.; W. A. Wilson, R. W. Evans, R.E. Comp. P. W. D. Broderick, P.Z.'s.

No. 6. St. John's, Hamilton.

E. Comps. A. T. Freed, J.; E. Porter, Z.; J. McCallum, V.E. Comps. J. T. Wilson, T. Pedlar; R.E. Comps. W. Birrell, W. J. McAllister, J. Mallory, D. McPhie, A. T. Neill; M.E. Comps. W. Gibson, W. G. Reid, Hugh Murray, P.Z.'s.

No. 7. The Moira, Belleville.

E. Comps. W. S. Morden, Z.; J. A. Phillips, R.E. Comp. W. Webster, P.Z.'s.

- No. 8. *King Solomon's, Toronto.*
E. Comps. M. Gibbs, P.H.; Joseph Doust, Z.; E. M. Carleton, J. S. Lovell, John Akers; R.E. Comps. J. B. Nixon, Alex. Patterson; M.E. Comp. Kivas Tully, P.Z.'s.
- No. 15. *Wawanosh, Sarnia.*
E. Comp. J. Woods, P.Z.
- No. 16. *Carleton, Ottawa.*
R.E. Comp. W. A. MacKay, Proxy.
- No. 18. *Oxford, Woodstock.*
E. Comp. Geo. H. Cheyne, Z.
- No. 19. *Mount Moriah, St. Catharines.*
E. Comp. A. N. Lindsay, J.; S. P. Gourlay, Z.
- No. 20. *Mount Horeb, Brantford.*
E. Comp. Moses McCormack, P.Z., and Proxy.
- No. 22. *Grenville, Prescott.*
R.E. Comp. J. F. Graham, P.Z., and Proxy.
- No. 23. *Ezra, Simcoe.*
R.E. Comp. J. G. Bottomley, P.Z.
- No. 26. *St. Mark's, Trenton.*
E. Comp. Robt. Weddell, P.Z., and Proxy.
- No. 27. *Manitou, Collingwood.*
R.E. Comp. W. T. Toner, P.Z.
- No. 28. *Pentalpha, Oshawa.*
R.E. Comp. Robt. McCaw, P.Z., and Proxy.
- No. 29. *McCallum, Dunnville.*
R.E. Comp. R. G. W. Conolly, P.Z.
- No. 30. *Huron, Goderich.*
R.E. Comp. Joseph Beck, P.Z., and Proxy.
- No. 31. *Prince Edward, Picton.*
E. Comp. R. E. Wright, Z.; V.E. Comp. H. Wellbanks, M.E. Comp. Donald Ross, P.Z.'s.
- No. 36. *Corinthian, Peterboro'.*
E. Comp. J. M. Shaw, R.E. Comp. R. E. Wood, Proxy, P.Z.'s.

- No. 37. *Victoria, Port Hope.*
R.E. Comps. R. C. Smith, W. J. Robertson, P.Z.'s.
- No. 40. *Guelph, Guelph.*
E. Comps. W. A. Mahoney, Z.; H. Mahoney, R.E. Comp. R. Mahoney, P.Z.'s.
- No. 41. *Harris, Ingersoll.*
E. Comp. Beattie Patterson, Z.
- No. 44. *Mount Sinai, Napanee.*
R.E. Comp. J. G. Fennell, P.Z.
- No. 47. *Wellington, Chatham.*
E. Comp. Geo. B. Crumb, Z.
- No. 48. *St. John's, Cobourg.*
R.E. Comp. R. J. Craig, P.Z.
- No. 52. *Prince Rupert, Winnipeg.*
R.E. Comp. John Leslie, P.Z.
- No. 53. *Bruce, Petrolea.*
E. Comp. A. W. Parker, Z.
- No. 54. *Palestine, St. Thomas.*
E. Comp. S. J. Puddicombe, Z.
- No. 55. *Niagara, Niagara.*
R.E. Comps. J. G. Bottomley, J. G. Rousseau, P.Z.'s.
- No. 56. *Georgian, Owen Sound.*
R.E. Comp. Allan Cameron, P.Z.
- No. 59. *Sussex, Brockville.*
E. Comp. W. H. Kyle, Z. and P.Z.
- No. 60. *Doric, Newmarket.*
E. Comp. A. E. Webb, R.E. Comp. P. T. Lee, P.Z.'s.
- No. 61. *Granite, Almonte.*
E. Comp. M. H. Steele, Z.
- No. 62. *York, Eglinton.*
E. Comps. Geo. McLeish, J.; R. Lennox, H.; R. J. Gibson, D. Robertson, W. E. Hofland, R.E. Comps. R. W. Hull, W. Roaf, P.Z.'s.

No. 65.

St. Paul's, Toronto.

E. Comps. F. C. Snider, H.; F. Sparling, F. W. Harcourt,
V.E. Comp. W. H. Best, R.E. Comps. Jas. Bicknell, A. F.
Webster, Aubrey White, W. G. Eakins, Benjamin Allen, C.
W. Postlethwaite, P.Z.'s.

No. 66.

The Malloch, Seaforth.

E. Comp. R. J. Cooper, Proxy; R.E. Comp. J. W. Hodgins,
P.Z.'s .

No. 67.

Enterprise, Harriston.

E. Comp. W. W. Yeo, Z.; R.E. Comp. John Prain, P.Z.

No. 68.

Maitland, North Augusta.

E. Comp. W. H. Kyle, Proxy.

No 69.

Grimsby, Grimsby.

E. Comp. A. E. Phipps, Z.; R.E. Comp. W. Forbes, P.Z.

No. 70.

Grand River, Bracebridge.

R.E. Comp. Isaac Huber, P.Z.

No. 72.

Keystone, Stirling.

E. Comp. H. H. Alger, Z. and P.Z.; R.E. Comp. J. E. Hal-
liwell, P.Z.

No. 73.

Erie, Ridgetown.

E. Comp. R. Spence, H.; V.E. Comp. G. W. Moody, P.Z.

No. 74.

Beaver, Strathroy.

E. Comp. A. E. Hare, Z.

No. 75.

St. Clair, Milton.

E. Comps. F. A. Brown, Z.; G. E. Sitzer, R.E. Comps. Wm.
Panton, J. A. Frazer, P.Z.

No. 76.

Mount Nebo, Niagara Falls S.

E. Comps. R. G. Murray, Z.; E. E. Fraser, P.Z.

No. 77.

Occident, Toronto.

E. Comps. H. G. Brown, J.; F. Prince, Z.; H. Meadows, L.
H. Luke, Geo. K. Clemens, R.E. Comps. Jas. Wilson, J. W.
Hickson, J. J. Thompson, P.Z.'s.

No. 79.

Orient, Toronto.

E. Comps. Gilbert Gilmour, Z.; W. G. Chick, V.E. Comps.
J. W. S. Corley, Ira Bates, R.E. Comp. E. H. Briggs, P.Z.'s.

No. 80.

Ark, Windsor.

E. Comp. R. H. Revell, P.Z., and Proxy.

No. 82. *Shuniah, Port Arthur.*

R.E. Comp. Geo. J. Bennett, P.Z., and Proxy.

No. 83. *Ionic, Orangeville.*

E. Comps. J. A. Glover, Proxy; Wm. Fleming, P.Z.'s.

No. 88. *Golden, Rat Portage.*

R.E. Comp. Geo. J. Bennett, P.Z., and Proxy.

No. 91. *Antiquity Toronto.*

E. Comps. E. C. Davies, H.; F. E. Luke, Z.; G. W. Verral,
V.E. Comp. W. J. A. Lake, R.E. Comps. G. G. Rowe, G. J.
Bennett, P.Z.'s.

No. 94. *Midland, Lindsay.*

E. Comp. J. W. Wallace, P.Z., and Proxy.

No. 95. *Tuscan, Sudbury.*

E. Comp. J. S. Gill, Z.; R.E. Comp. R. H. Arthur, P.Z.

No. 98. *Vancouver, Vancouver.*

R.E. Comp. W. Roaf, Proxy.

No. 100. *St. Lawrence, Brockville.*

E. Comp. W. H. Kyle, Proxy; R.E. Comp. W. H. Mowat,
P.Z.'s.

No. 101. *Corinthian, Boissevain.*

R.E. Comp. John Leslie, Proxy.

No. 102. *Algonquin, Sault Ste. Marie.*

E. Comp. R. Roberts, R.E. Comp. B. Allen, Proxy, P.Z.'s.

No. 103. *St. John's, North Bay.*

E. Comp. J. T. Lovell, P.Z., and Proxy.

No. 104. *White Oak, Oakville.*

E. Comps. W. T. Marlatt, Z.; W. H. Morden, V.E. Comp.
W. H. Robinson, R.E. Comp. W. H. Speers, P.Z.'s.

No. 106. *Alberta, Calgary.*

M.E. Comp. W. G. Reid, Proxy.

No. 114. *Bonnechere, Renfrew.*

V.E. Comp. Wm. Hay, R.E. Comp. W. A. MacKay, Proxy,
P.Z.'s.

No. 115. *Brant, Paris.*

E. Comp. W. J. Logie, Z.

- No. 116. *Maple, Carleton Place.*
E. Comp. A. S. Gorrell, R.E. Comp. D. H. McIntosh, Proxy,
P.Z.'s.
- No. 118. *North Star, Edmonton.*
R.E. Comp. Geo. J. Bennett, Proxy.
- No. 120. *Kootenay, Kaslo.*
R.E. Comp. Benjamin Allen, Proxy.
- No. 124. *Westminster, New Westminster.*
M.E. Comp. Wm. Gibson, Proxy.
- No. 127. *Keystone, Nanaimo.*
R.E. Comp. Benjamin Allen, Proxy.
- U.D. *St. Francis, Smith's Falls.*
E. Comp. G. T. Martin, Z.
- U. D. *King Darius, Cannington.*
E. Comp. Thos. Foster, H.
- U. D. *Succoth, Uxbridge.*
E. Comp. V. M. Hare, H.

Thirty-three Chapters are unrepresented. Number of names registered, 178. Number of votes entitled to be cast, 340.

Fraternally submitted,

J. EARL HALLIWELL,
W. S. R. MURCH,
W. T. TONER,

Committee.

On motion of R. E. Comp. J. Earl Halliwell, seconded by R. E. Comp. Murch, the report of the Committee on Credentials of Representatives was received and adopted.

The M. E. the Grand Z. granted permission for the admission of all Royal Arch Masons in good standing, during the sessions of Grand Chapter, as visitors.

The Grand Scribe N. read the rules and regulations for the government of Grand Chapter during business. The Grand Scribe E. commenced to read the minutes of

the proceedings of the Forty-fifth Annual Convocation, held in the City of Toronto, on the 28th day of January, A.D. 1903, A.I. 2433, when it was moved by M. E. Comp. W. G. Reid, seconded by R. E. Comp. W. Roaf, and

Resolved,—That as the proceedings of the last Annual Convocation, held on the 28th day of January, 1903, have been printed, and copies thereof sent to all the Chapters under this jurisdiction, the recorded minutes be considered as read, and the same be now confirmed.

The M. E. the Grand Z. then called upon the Grand Scirbe E. to read the roll of Representatives of sister Grand Chapters, and invited those in attendance to seats on the dais and greeted them, the Companions of Grand Chapter standing. The following answered to their names:

M. E. Comp.	A. Shaw, Kingston.....	Connecticut.
" "	Hugh Murray, Hamilton.....	District of Columbia.
R. E. "	Allan Cameron, M.D., Owen Sound	Georgia.
" "	Wm. Forbes, Grimsby	Illinois.
" "	Ed. Worth, Kent Bridge	Indian Territory.
" "	C. W. Postlethwaite, Toronto	Iowa.
M. E. "	Kivas Tully, Toronto	Ireland.
R. E. "	B. Allan, Toronto	Maine.
" "	R. G. W. Conolly, Dunnville	Maryland.
M. E. "	Wm. Gibson, Beamsville	Missouri.
R. E. "	W. H. Mowat, Brockville.....	Nevada.
" "	John Leslie, Winnipeg	New Zealand.
" "	James Wilson, Toronto	North Carolina.
" "	Geo. Moore, Hamilton	Nova Scotia.
" "	Wm. Roaf, K.C., Toronto.....	Oregon.
" "	Donald McPhie, Hamilton	Pennsylvania.
" "	J. B. Nixon, Toronto....	Vermont.
M. E. "	W. G. Reid, Hamilton	Victoria.
R. E. "	Alex Patterson, Toronto.....	Virginia.

The Grand Representatives having been accorded the Grand honors, R. E. Comp. William Forbes, Representative of Illinois, responded on behalf of his colleagues, stating that it would be a source of gratification to our sister Grand jurisdictions to learn that the Grand Chapter of Canada was enjoying such an era of peace and prosperity.

The M. E. the Grand Z. then read the following:

ADDRESS.

To the Most Excellent Grand Chapter, Greeting.

Companions:

Another year has rapidly passed away, and through the beneficence of the Most High we are graciously permitted to assemble in Annual Convocation to hear reports of our Grand Officers, and to transact such other business as may be deemed necessary for the good of the Royal Craft.

It affords me, Companions, great pleasure to extend to you a cordial welcome to this our Forty-sixth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada, that we may here express thanks to, and seek assistance from, the Great I Am while we review the events of the past year and look forward with hope for the years to come.

The healthy growth of past years has brought the Grand Chapter into larger proportions and greater usefulness, and inspired it with more intense vigor, the year just closed being marked by the same life and work which has heretofore characterized it.

It is again, as it has been during the past years, a pleasure to report that our relations with all sister Grand Chapters continue most friendly and cordial, while throughout our own jurisdiction harmony and prosperity prevail, the Grand Scribe E. informing me that this year has been the most prosperous the Royal Craft has experienced. Financially, it has never been in a more satisfactory condition, which is due to those who in the past have presided over and guarded the interest of our Grand Chapter.

In accordance with the expressed desire of Grand Chapter at the last Annual Convocation, your Grand Council and Grand Treasurer invested \$2,484.99 in debentures of the town of Orillia, guaranteed by the county of Simcoe, bearing interest at the rate of four per cent. per annum, payable half yearly.

The following brief summary of the Grand Chapter since its organization will be of interest:

- In 1863 there were 22 Chapters with 867 members, receipts for the year \$360.60.
- In 1873 there were 54 Chapters with 2,492 members, receipts for the year \$1,709.40.
- In 1883 there were 78 Chapters with 3,537 members, receipts for the year \$2,075.70.
- In 1893 there were 87 Chapters with 4,023 members, receipts for the year \$2,742.74.
- In 1902 there were 103 Chapters with 6,938 members, receipts for the year \$4,011.60.

These figures mark a very rapid growth during the past ten years, but I am proud to be in the position to state that the record of the last twelve months exceeds any similar period in the history of Grand Chapter. Last year we announced a net increase of 477. This year the gain is over 700. The statements from the Grand Scribe E. and Grand Treasurer for the year just closed are most encouraging. They will be found in the printed proceedings of this Annual Convocation.

OUR DEPARTED.

While, my Companions, we rejoice in the prosperity of the Grand Chapter and the subordinate Chapters, we are reminded that those who have been foremost in the good work are fast being called from our midst. During the past year, for the first time in the history of our Grand Chapter, one of the Grand Council was summoned from this transient and fleeting life to enjoy the realities of that greater life where the cry of pain or the sigh of sorrow will never more be heard.

Our departed R. E. Companion, Dr. DeWitt H. Martyn, Grand Second Principal, was associated with the Grand Chapter for many years, his name being seldom omitted in the Proceedings since 1883, when he first represented Havelock Chapter, No. 63, Kincardine, his presence always being looked for and his advice carefully considered. Last year, when elected to the position of Grand H., he bade fair to grace that office and

materially assist, by his wisdom, the Grand Council, but soon after the closing of the convocation he was forced, through affliction, to cease from his professional duties. In search of health, he went to the city of Brooklyn, New York, from which place we were gratified to learn of his improvement, and in the early part of July he returned to Canada, and was found, as in the past, at the session of the Grand Lodge of Canada, where he was greeted by so many of his brethren. A few days later, however, at his home in Kincardine, the angel of death came, and on Sunday, 19th July, he was called to his reward. His quiet, unassuming manner, his warm friendship, his strong sense of justice, his long attachment to our Craft in all its branches had won for him the love and esteem of his brethren and Companions. Loving and lovable, we may well say of him, "We will record his name in our hearts and treasure it in our memories; he shall live in the exercise of his virtues."

"Death should come

Gently, to one of gentle mould like thee,
As light winds, wandering through groves of bloom,
Detach the delicate blossoms from the tree.
Close thy sweet eyes calmly and without pain,
And we will trust in God, to see thee yet again."

For some years Grand Chapter has watched with sorrow and keen interest, owing to his failing health, our M. E. Companion, J. J. Mason, of Hamilton, who was known and honored by every member of the Masonic body, having served as Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Canada for twenty-nine years, was elected Grand First Principal of the Grand Chapter of Canada at the city of Kingston in 1890, and few had such interest over their brethren as our departed Companion, always listened to with interest and marked attention. He was known by the deep interest taken in all matters affecting his city or country, at the time of his death holding the rank of major in the active militia, had served as Mayor of the City of Hamilton for some years, and was a zealous member of the Anglican Church. For five months he was confined to his home by that fell disease, con-

sumption, and on 15th June the voice of the Almighty was heard, and laying down the gavel of labor, he ascended into the presence of the Master of Assemblies to receive his reward. He was buried under Masonic auspices, the funeral attended by many of the most distinguished members of the Craft.

We have also to record and mourn the death during the year of R. E. Comp. John Creasor, of Owen Sound, who gave much of his time to the Royal Craft. He was buried with Masonic honors at Owen Sound on the 16th March. The deceased Judge was First Principal of Georgian Chapter, No. 56, Owen Sound, in 1879, and Grand Superintendent in 1891. Those who knew him best found him to be a consistent Mason, a helpful companion and an estimable member of society.

Among the other faithful workers in the Royal Craft whose death we deplore are R. E. Companions John M. Clement and W. G. Coulter, Past Grand Superintendents of the Niagara and Ontario districts respectively, and V. E. Companion Senator Lachlan McCallum, founder of the Chapter at Dunnville which bears his name.

We join with our sister jurisdictions in mourning the loss of the following distinguished Companions:

Alabama—James E. Cobb, Past Grand High Priest.

Arizona—Frederick A. Sweet, M.D., Past Grand High Priest; George W. Cheyney, Past Grand High Priest.

Colorado—Wm. H. Byers, Past Grand High Priest; Roger W. Unrlbury, Past Grand High Priest.

Connecticut—William W. Lee, Past Grand High Priest.

Columbia, District of—Noble D. Larner, Past Grand High Priest.

Kansas—Peter J. Freeling, Grand Treasurer; Wm. D. Thompson, Past Grand High Priest; Edward A. Smith, Past Grand High Priest.

Illinois—Edward C. Pace, Past Grand High Priest; Wiley M. Egan, Past Grand High Priest; James McMurry, Past Grand High Priest.

Maryland—Charles H. Ohr, M.D., Past Grand High Priest.

Michigan—Jefferson S. Conover, Grand Secretary.
 Mississippi—Reuben Barney, Past Grand High Priest.

New Jersey—George B. Edwards, Grand Secretary.

Ohio—Wm. W. Savage, Past Grand High Priest.

Pennsylvania—Samuel C. Perkins, Past Grand High Priest.

South Carolina—Andrew H. White, Past Grand High Priest.

Tennessee—W. R. Shaver, Past Grand High Priest.

Virginia—James O'Keefe, D. D. G. H. Priest;
 Thomas E. Schwartz, Past Grand High Priest.

Wisconsin—Charles W. Bardun, Past Grand High Priest.

New Brunswick—John A. Watson, Past Grand High Priest.

I desire to place on record my appreciation of the assistance rendered by R. E. Comp. D. F. MacWatt and our Grand Scribe E. in keeping me in touch with the condition of our R. E. Companion, the late Dr. DeWitt Martyn, during his protracted illness; also would recommend that this Grand Chapter acknowledge the courtesy and kindness extended our R. E. Companion by a number of Grand High Priests of New York State, who regularly visited him while he sojourned at Brooklyn, this acknowledgment to be sent through our good Companion, David M. Drury, Secretary of the Fraternal Union of Anointed High Priests of the State of New York, who was foremost in attention.

RENDITION OF THE WORK.

The Grand Superintendents have been zealous in their efforts to secure the correct exemplification of our beautiful ritual, and in assisting the Chapters by their wise counsel and painstaking efforts to advance the interest of the Craft. The Grand Chapter owes much to these zealous officers, and the districts should guard well the personnel of those whom they select for such an important position.

The work of the Most Excellent Master degree, which has been restored to its original form, was duly

prepared and the Chapters notified thereof. I am pleased to say that in many of the Chapters this work has been adopted and conferred in a manner creditable to the officers and pleasant to those receiving the degree. I trust this work will be adopted throughout the jurisdiction in accordance with the ruling of Grand Chapter.

Lack of uniformity in the secret work is to be deplored, and I would recommend that action be taken to secure perfect similarity, and that too in accordance with our ancient and time-honored ceremonies.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

I have had pleasure in recommending the following Companions of our jurisdictions as Grand Representatives for sister Grand Chapters:

Georgia—R. E. Companion Allan Cameron, M.D., Owen Sound.

Indian Territory—R. E. Companion Edward Worth, Kent Bridge.

Iowa—R. E. Companion C. W. Postlethwaite, Toronto.

Louisiana—M. E. Companion Robert Hendry, Kingston.

Maine—R. E. Companion Benjamin Allen, Toronto.

Massachusetts—M. E. Companion John E. Harding, Lindsay.

Nevada—R. E. Companion Wm. H. Mowat, Brockville.

New Zealand—R. E. Companion John Leslie, Winnipeg.

Nova Scotia—R. E. Companion George Moore, Hamilton.

Oregon—R. E. Companion Wm. Roaf, Toronto.

South Dakota—R. E. Companion A. E. Cooper, London.

The above nominations have been ratified and commissions from the various Grand Chapters received and forwarded to the Companions.

Commissions have been issued to the following as

Grand Representatives of this Grand Chapter near their respective Grand Chapters:

Connecticut—R. E. Companion George N. Delap, Hartford.

Florida—R. E. Companion Z. T. Merritt, Buena Vista.

Massachusetts—R. E. Companion R. A. Atwood, Boston.

New Zealand—R. E. Companion Robert Fletcher, Wellington.

South Dakota—R. E. Companion D. Corrigan, Hot Springs.

I reiterate the desire expressed by our M. E. Companion William Gibson, that our Companions honored with commissions as Grand Representatives should use every effort to be present at the Annual Convocations of this Grand Chapter, thus showing their appreciation of the honor conferred upon them.

OFFICIAL VISITATIONS.

The official visits during the year have been somewhat numerous. With two exceptions, I have been able to keep my engagements. It was a great source of regret when I found that my official duties would not permit me meeting my Companions of Antiquity, No. 91, Toronto, and Leeds, No. 132, Gananoque. I was gratified to learn from Grand Superintendent J. Bicknell of the large gathering, successful work and pleasant evening spent with Antiquity, while at Leeds Chapter, one of the latest and most prosperous in our jurisdiction, R. E. Companion W. A. MacKay, Grand Superintendent of Ottawa District, with E. Companion Wm. H. Kyle, came to my assistance and installed the officers. They report a most successful meeting and enjoyable evening.

In all my visits I found loyalty to the Grand Chapter prevailing, being received with all honor and respect due to the exalted position, and meeting with courtesy

and kindness on every hand, for which I am deeply grateful. The following were the Chapters officially visited by me:

May 8th—Victoria, No. 37, Port Hope. Accompanied by R. E. Companions Wm. Roaf, Grand J.; R. C. Smith, Grand Superintendent; C. W. Postlethwaite, and Robert J. Craig. This Chapter is well known for its excellent work.

June 2nd—Excelsior, No. 45, Colborne. Accompanied by Grand Superintendent R. C. Smith and R. E. Companion Dr. Might. Many distinguished Companions were present, and the work was performed in a very satisfactory manner.

June 16th—St. Mark's, No. 26, Trenton. This Chapter has made rapid progress under the able management of its officers. Three candidates were exalted that evening, and the work well put on.

June 18th—Midland, No. 94, Lindsay. Accompanied by Grand Superintendent R. C. Smith, and was pleased also to have with me M. E. Companion J. E. Harding and several Companions from Peterborough. Seven received the degree of the Holy Royal Arch. This Chapter boasts of many distinguished Companions who take an interest in the work.

October 13th—St. John's, No. 103, North Bay. Accompanied by R. E. Companion Allan Cameron, Grand Superintendent. The Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of Canada is a member of this Chapter, and was present. The appointments of the new room are perfect, and the work was beautifully done.

October 14th—Tuscan, No. 95, Sudbury. R. E. Companion R. H. Arthur, with many of the Companions, made my visit very enjoyable, and showed themselves masters of the work.

October 15th—Shuniah, No. 82, Port Arthur. Accompanied by Grand Superintendent J. W. Morgan. Among those who take an active interest in the Chapter is R. E. Companion S. W. Ray, and through the watchful care of those two Companions good work is ensured.

November 2nd—Enterprise, No. 67, Harriston. There were with me R. E. Companions John Prain, Grand Superintendent, and R. Mahoney. The former is a member of this Chapter. The Royal Arch was exemplified by R. E. Companion R. Mahoney, who is a skilled workman in all the degrees of Craft Masonry. There were 67 members of the Chapter present, besides visitors, which marks the interest taken by the officers and members.

November 9th—Prince Edward, No. 31, Picton. There were present the Grand Superintendent, R. E. Companion J. G. Fennell, also R. E. Companion Jas. H. Colden and a dozen Companions from Napanee. In all 95 Companions were present. The officers are masters of the work, and exemplified the Royal Arch in excellent manner. This Chapter is one of the best in the jurisdiction.

November 20th—Ancient Frontenac and Cataraqui, No. 1, Kingston. This being my home Chapter, I had with me a large number of Past Grand Chapter officers, many of whom are seldom absent from the regular meetings. This Chapter has excellent officers, and carries on the work in a perfect manner. It has been my privilege to meet my Companions at most of its meetings. R. E. Companion Wm. H. Mowat, Grand Superintendent, was present, and expressed himself well pleased with the work. On 15th January, assisted by Past Grand Chapter officers, I installed the officers for 1903.

December 9th—St. Paul's, No. 65, Toronto. This ranks among the foremost Chapters in the jurisdiction. There were with me R. E. Companions Wm. Roaf, Grand J.; James Bicknell, Grand Superintendent; Benjamin Allen, P. T. Lee and many others. I need not comment on the work or character of this Chapter. It is well known in the jurisdiction.

January 5th—Maple, No. 116, Carleton Place. Accompanied by the Grand Superintendent, R. E. Companion W. A. MacKay, and R. E. Companions D. H. McIntosh and W. B. McArthur, also Companions from Granite Chapter, Almonte, and St. Francis U. D.,

Smith's Falls. The officers were installed by the Grand Superintendent. E. Companion Gorrell, Immediate Past Z., is an enthusiastic worker, and has placed this Chapter among the first in the Ottawa District.

I was also present at the institution of St. Francis Chapter, U. D., Smith's Falls; King Darius Chapter, Cannington, and Succoth Chapter, Uxbridge. At each of these meetings there were many distinguished Companions, especially at Smith's Falls and Uxbridge; at Cannington I was assisted by R. E. Companion J. W. Wallace.

April 15th—Chapter of Instruction, held at Amherstburg, under the direction of R. E. Companion Ed. Worth, Grand Superintendent, when the M. M. M. Degree was exemplified by officers of Ark Chapter, No. 80, Windsor; the M. E. M. by Prince of Wales, No. 71, Amherstburg, and the Holy Royal Arch, by Wellington, No. 47, Chatham. The officers were well qualified for the work and R. E. Companion Thomas MacNabb, one of the pioneer Masons in the district, gave the mystical lecture with all the beauty and vigor of earlier days. The Grand Superintendent deserves much credit for the successful gathering.

November 13th—Chapter of Instruction, held at London, under the direction of R. E. Companion Wm. Caw, M.D. The M. M. M. Degree was conferred by Palestine Chapter, No. 54, St. Thomas; the M. E. M. by Wawanosh, No. 15, Sarnia, and the Holy Royal Arch by St. John's and St. George's, Nos. 3 and 5, London. With R. E. Companion Wm. Caw were R. E. Companion Wm. Roaf, Grand J.; M. E. Companion M. Walsh, R. E. Companions George Wenino and Ed. Worth.

Chapters of Instruction bring the Companions together, and cannot but add interest to the Craft. I would recommend the Grand Superintendents to try and arrange for such in their respective districts.

November 26th—Reunion in Ottawa, which was a great success. The work was performed by Ottawa Companions, presided over by V. E. Companion J. L. Cul-

bert in the M. M. M. Degree, by E. Companion W. H. Garioch in the M. E. M., and by R. E. Companion S. A. Luke in the Holy Royal Arch. There were present Grand Superintendent W. A. MacKay, R. E. Companions W. B. McArthur, E. B. Butterworth, and many other distinguished Companions, while the surrounding Chapters sent representatives. I do not think that the work taken as a whole has been performed with greater accuracy or emphasized more clearly than at this grand reunion of Royal Arch Masons.

January 7th—Visited union meeting of Sussex, No. 59, and St. Lawrence, No. 100, at Brockville. Four brethren were exalted, and the work performed in a masterly manner. Grand Superintendent W. H. Mowat, R. E. Companions George Gale and Minnish, with Companions from North Augusta, Smith's Falls, and from Chapters in New York State, were present.

September 10th—Visited St. John's, No. 6, Hamilton. A Past First Principals' night. Seven of the officers of the Grand Chapter were present, and many other distinguished members, who came not only to see the excellent manner in which the Past Principals would confer the Holy Royal Arch, but also to do honor to M. E. Companion William Gibson, Past Grand Z. Immediately after the officers of Grand Chapter had been received and welcomed, the chairs of the Council being filled by R. E. Companions J. M. Gibson, Donald McPhie and M. E. Companion Wm. Gibson, I had the pleasure, on behalf of Grand Chapter, of introducing that which called together so many officers of Grand Chapter, viz., the presentation of a testimonial to our Most Excellent Companion, Wm. Gibson, Past Grand Z., who had served the Craft so faithfully and won so loyally the esteem and love of every Companion. The committee, M. E. Companion Hugh Hurray and R. E. Companion George J. Bennett, read the address, and presented a handsomely chased tureen, tray and ladles of solid silver.

September 30th—Visited the reunion of Royal Arch Masons at Montreal, which was under the direction of R. E. Companion J. L. Phillips, Grand Superintendent.

The M. M. M. and M. E. M. degrees were exemplified by the officers of the four Chapters of Montreal. It was a great pleasure to observe the impressive and beautiful manner in which the work was performed. The officers of the Grand Chapter of Quebec were present, with one exception, and were received with honors by the district, after which the Grand Chapter, presided over by M. E. Companion J. Bruce Payne, Grand Z., extended a hearty welcome to your honored representative. A choice banquet, with eloquent addresses from many distinguished Companions, closed the evening, which will not soon be forgotten by those present. This Grand Chapter will readily conjecture how wit and wisdom would lend enchantment to the evening when such distinguished Companions as M. E. Companions Col. A. A. Stevenson, I. H. Stearns, Will H. Whyte, J. B. Tressider, Hon. J. V. Ellis, of St. John, NB., and many others were present.

April 30th—On invitation from the Fraternal Union of Anointed High Priests of New York State, I attended their banquet at Hotel Marlborough, New York City. Two hundred and sixty-three High Priests from various States of the Union were present. Your representative was honored by being made a member of the Fraternal Union, and found those Excellent Companions of our border State filled with the true spirit of Masonry, carrying out the tenets and principles inculcated by our ancient rites.

I need only add that in every place the Companions did all in their power to make my visit enjoyable, such is the fealty entertained toward this Grand Chapter, loved and looked up to by all its members.

NEW CHAPTERS.

I have pleasure in informing Grand Chapter that during the year I issued dispensations for the instituting of these new Chapters.

St. Francis, at Smith's Falls, Ont.

King Darius, at Cannington, Ont.

Succoth, at Uxbridge, Ont.

King Edward, at Neepawa, Manitoba.

and am gratified at the reports which come to me regarding the work and prospects of those Chapters under dispensation.

King Edward, at Neepawa, owing to delay in completing their Chapter room, has not been able to proceed with the work as they had hoped, and I have no doubt but that it will continue under dispensation until next Annual Convocation, but I see no reason why warrants should not be issued to the other three Chapters.

RESUSCITATED CHAPTER.

During the year, owing to the zeal and labors of R. E. Companion Wm. Caw, M.D., London district, of which Grand Chapter may be justly proud, the Companions resident in Strathroy applied for permission to resuscitate Beaver Chapter, No. 74, the warrant of which had been withdrawn by Grand Chapter in 1895, as the Companions had ceased to meet, and were in arrears to Grand Chapter from 1883 to date of surrender. Upon corresponding with those interested, I learned that only five of the former members were living in Strathroy, and as the Grand Superintendent, R. E. Companion Wm. Caw, M.D., considered it in the interest of the Royal Craft to have a Chapter there, I consented, and directed the Grand Scribe E. to grant the wish of the petitioners by handing them the original warrant, free of the expense due by the former Companions.

BY-LAWS AND AMENDMENTS.

During the year I have approved of new and revised by-laws, as well as amendments of the following Chapters:

New or Revised—Midland, 94, Lindsay; Victoria, 37, Port Hope; Leeds, 132, Gananoque; Covenant 113, Cornwall; Orient, 79, Toronto; Alberta, 106, Calgary; Granite, 61, Almonte; St. Mark's, 26, Trenton; Vancouver, 98, Vancouver; Amabel, 131, Wiarton; Chantry, 130, Southampton.

Amended By-laws—Lebanon, 84, Wingham; St. John's, 3, London; St. George's, 5, London; Grand River,

70, Bracebridge; Maple, 116, Carleton Place; Antiquity, 91, Toronto; Revelstoke, 128, Revelstoke; Algonquin, 102, Sault Ste. Marie; Prince Edward, 31, Picton.

I would remind the Companions of the necessity of sending through the Grand Superintendent all correspondence concerning by-laws and requiring action of Grand Chapter. This will lessen much of the unnecessary labor of the Grand Scribe E., who often has to return such for confirmation of Grand Superintendents.

DISPENSATIONS.

Dispensations have been granted for the establishment of Chapters at Smith's Falls, Cannington and Uxbridge in Ontario, and Neepawa in Manitoba. I was present at the opening and installing of the officers of the three former. Of the last mentioned I am not sure whether they have commenced regular work. The Grand Superintendents will no doubt report regarding those Chapters U. D.

Dispensation was issued to St. Lawrence Chapter, No. 100, to exalt Brother F. B. Carrin before he was three months a Master Mason, on account of his being required to proceed to Hong Kong, China, he having received the degrees of Mark and M. E. Masters.

Dispensation to exalt a brother who was only two months a Master Mason was refused. The only reason assigned in the request was that the residence of the brother was some few miles from the Chapter.

I have also issued dispensations to Chapters for various but necessary purposes.

QUESTION OF JURISDICTION.

Very recently a communication was received by me, through the Grand Scribe E., from the Scribe E. of a Canadian Chapter bordering upon the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of New York State, requesting permission to confer the Chapter degrees upon a brother who resided in New York State, but spent most of his time on the Canadian side.

The Chapter in New York, where the brother resides, when asked for permission to confer the degrees, replied that they had no objections, but considered it best to be decided by the Grand Chapters of the respective jurisdictions.

In reply to the Canadian Chapter, I stated "that a matter of this kind must be treated with great care, as it would not be in the interest of the Royal Craft to interfere in any respect with a sister jurisdiction, and in order to preserve that harmony that has for many years characterized New York State and Canada in Royal Arch matters, it would be better for the brother to connect himself with the Chapter in New York State, where he resides, and then be in a position to visit the Canadian Chapter," and added that "the circumstances are not such as to warrant a series of correspondence between the two jurisdictions."

CONCLUSION.

In concluding this sketch of my work for the year, I wish to express the sympathy of Grand Chapter with the Companions of King Cyrus Chapter, No. 119, Leamington, who in March suffered the loss by fire of their hall and effects; also wish to state that by the energy of the Companions there the Chapter room has been furnished and reopened.

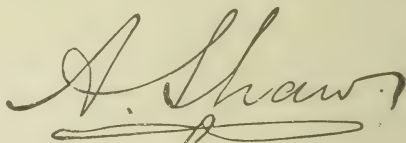
I desire to convey to this Grand Chapter my appreciation of the work performed by the Grand Superintendents: also of the assistance given me by R. E. Companion Wm. Roaf, Grand J., upon whom I placed the duties pertaining to the office of Grand H., and who so cheerfully aided me in every way possible. Our Grand Scribe E., George J. Bennett, has received in the past the thanks and praise of the First Principals of this Grand Chapter for his watchful care and prompt attention to every duty connected with his office. If more could be said I would willingly say it; but the performance of his official duties has endeared him not only to the First Principals, but to every Chapter and every Com-

panion who has met with him, either in person or by correspondence.

I take pleasure in attaching hereto and now reading the report sent me by R. E. Companion Wm. Roaf, which will be interesting to this Grand Chapter, dealing, as it does, with his official visit to the Chapters in British Columbia.

I desire to say that the securities, bonds, debentures, etc., of this Grand Chapter, which are in the custody of the Bank of Commerce, Hamilton, were examined by me on 10th December, and found correct, the coupons being detached up to last half year, and amounts thereof placed to credit of the Grand Treasurer with the bank.

In closing the year, which I entered upon with much fear, I must express my thanks to the individual members of Grand Chapter, upon whom depends the success of our Royal Craft, and while I have been unable to visit those Chapters in Manitoba, North-West Territories and British Columbia, all of them loyal and true, I trust that in the near future it may be my pleasure to meet with those Companions in their Chapter rooms, and now I join with you in the hope that the year upon which we are about to enter may be conducted under the protecting care of the Most High, and meet with His Divine approval.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "A. Shaw". The signature is written in dark ink and is underlined with a single horizontal stroke.

Grand Z.

It was moved by M. E. Comp. W. G. Reid, seconded by R. E. Comp. W. Roaf, and

Resolved,—That the address of the M.E. the Grand Z. be referred to the Executive Committee to report thereon during the present Convocation of Grand Chapter.

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS' REPORTS.

The reports of the Grand Superintendents of Districts were then presented.

ST. CLAIR DISTRICT, No. 1.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Members of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

MOST EXCELLENT SIR AND COMPANIONS: I beg to submit my report as Grand Superintendent of St. Clair District, No. 1, for 1903.

Shortly after election I sent a circular to the several Chapters, urging renewed energy and interest in Royal Arch Masonry, and requesting co-operation in holding two Chapters of Instruction, and a general programme in the interests of the Royal Craft.

The shabby condition of the district regalia prompted an appeal to the Chapters of the district, resulting in the purchase of a new set at a cost of \$36.00, which was paid by the six Chapters. The old regalia was subsequently presented to R. E. Comp. Geo. Gott, the oldest living Past Grand Superintendent in the district.

Practically, there is not a Chapter between Chatham and London, a distance of about 65 miles, whilst this territory includes eight good Craft lodges. Much correspondence passed between myself and the Companions at Glencoe, Bothwell and West Lorne, relative to instituting a Chapter, but no definite result thus far.

CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.—As stated, two Chapters of Instruction were proposed, not only as a means of arousing interest in the work, but also because the degree of M. E. M. as restored is somewhat new to the present generation of R. A. Masons. Also, being held

at Chatham and Amherstburg, each Chapter in the district was assigned degree work.

The first was called April 15th, 1903, at Amherstburg, under the warrant of Prince of Wales Chapter, No. 71. The gathering was honored with the presence of M. E. Comp. A. Shaw, Grand First Principal. A very pleasant and profitable afternoon and evening was spent. The work was of the very highest order, and the social side of Masonry fully enjoyed. The Chapter was opened at 3 p.m. by E. Comp. Christiansen and officers of Prince of Wales Chapter, following which E. Comp. J. H. Rodd and officers of Ark Chapter, of Windsor, advanced a candidate to the Mark. The work was well done, and deservedly praised in the discussion which followed. The reception at the door by Comp. E. S. Wigle, the excellent floor work of E. Comp. Geo. E. White, S.D., and the impressive explanations of the degree by E. Comp. J. H. Rodd, Z., well supported by the S. W. and J. W., and others, being specially commented on. Full justice was done this beautiful degree.

At 4.45 p.m. E. Comp. Christiansen and staff of Prince of Wales Chapter, Amherstburg, conferred the Most Excellent degree as "restored." Much interest was centered in this degree, being the first exemplification in many years in its present form. From the very limited time which the officers had to prepare, I anticipated but ordinary work. But not only was the work perfect in detail, but most impressively rendered; the musical portion, taken up so heartily by the Companions, certainly was inspiring. As in the Mark, the Most Excellent the Grand Z. commented upon the work, and gave some very useful information.

The Chapter is to be congratulated for preparing the equipment and so beautifully presenting the work on such short notice.

Resumed at 8 p.m. After being received with Grand honors, I formally welcomed M. E. Comp. Shaw, on behalf of St. Clair district. Our esteemed Grand Z. was introduced by two honored veterans, R. E. Companions T. C. MacNabb and Geo. Gott, the oldest P. G. Superin-

tendents in the district. An address of welcome was also read by E. Comp. Wilkinson, in behalf of the Amherstburg Companions. The greeting was eloquently acknowledged. The R. A. degree was then exemplified by E. Comp. Geo. Massey and staff of Wellington Chapter, Chatham. The work throughout was exceedingly well done. The explanations and delivery of Comp. Park, P.S., received almost breathless attention. A pleasant and profitable discussion followed, and many questions put and answered. The proceedings concluded with a very able and interesting address by M. E. Comp. Shaw, followed by several other Companions. Subsequently all enjoyed the sumptuous banquet provided by the Amherstburg Companions, which was one of the best I have had the pleasure of attending.

My thanks are due to E. Comp. Massey and staff of Wellington Chapter for assuming the work on ten days' notice, the Leamington Companions finding it necessary to decline; to E. Comp. Rodd and Companions, of Windsor, for assistance in the work, and to the Amherstburg Companions, by whom nothing was left undone to make the Chapter of Instruction a success.

CHATHAM.—The proposed Chapter of Instruction at Chatham did not materialize. Arrangements had been made to hold a joint Chapter of Instruction between No. 1 and 2 districts at Chatham and at London. The programme included some work for each Chapter in the two districts, and an exchange of work between London and Chatham officers. I spared neither time nor money to make this the "meeting of the year." However, through a misunderstanding, Chatham, at the last moment, found it necessary to withdraw, thus annulling the meeting there.

I fully appreciate the value of these district gatherings, especially when honored with the presence of the Grand Z. The Amherstburg gathering was held early in the year, and, although situated at the extreme end of the district and the smallest numerically, it is worth noting that the Chapter passed more petitions during the year than any other Chapter in the district.

On March 9th I visited Ark Chapter, No. 80,

Windsor. The work, the first for the new officers, consisted of advancing two candidates. As might be expected, it was well done. E. Comp. J. H. Rodd, First Principal Z., is well supported by his officers: The Scribe E., A. E. Edgar, is a good secretary; his notices always contain something intended to increase the attendance. At the banquet which followed, each officer and Companion expressed a determination to leave nothing undone to make 1903 one of the best years for Ark Chapter. I hope to have the pleasure of again visiting Ark Chapter before Jan. 27th.

KING CYRUS CHAPTER, No. 119, LEAMINGTON, was visited March 17th. Following the meeting and banquet the Chapter had the misfortune to lose all furnishings and paraphernalia by fire, which gutted the handsome block in which the Lodge and Chapter rooms were situated. A fair amount of insurance was carried, however. With characteristic zeal the Leamington craftsmen have refurnished their rooms, which certainly are a credit to themselves and the district, furniture, carpets and paraphernalia being the best procurable.

On this date the officers of Wellington Chapter, Chatham, paid King Cyrus Chapter a fraternal visit and worked the R. A. degree. Needless to say, the work was well done and the proceedings much enjoyed. E. Comp. Massey was accompanied by about fifteen officers and Companions, including R. E. Companions W. H. Benson and T. C. MacNabb. The latter delivered one of the lectures, to the profit and pleasure of those present. Subsequently all enjoyed the elegant banquet. In their new quarters King Cyrus will give a good account of itself, seven petitions appearing on the summons for the January convocation.

MACNABB CHAPTER, No. 88, DRESDEN.—This Chapter is in good shape, and particularly well officered, E. Comp. Dr. J. I. Wiley being the Z. I have attended all regular meetings. At the April meeting the Chapter was crowded, and the work of the R. A. beautifully done. On May 4th I visited officially, and witnessed the work of the Mark degree, which was well done. To this Chap-

ter I assigned the work of the M. E. M. degree for the Chapter of Instruction, which was cheerfully accepted. A pleasant time was spent around the festive board. June 4th, on invitation, I worked the M. E. M. degree as restored. Also at the August meeting. The books are well kept, finances in good shape, and the prospects everything that could be desired. Dr. Wiley and most of the 1903 officers have been re-elected, and are bent on making 1904 the best in the history of MacNabb Chapter. R. E. Comp. Sharpe and V. E. Comp. Switzer continue to take the same deep interest in the welfare of No. 88.

WELLINGTON CHAPTER, No. 47, CHATHAM.—This Chapter is in first-class condition. No better set of officers have I found anywhere. I also visited this Chapter several times. On April 9th was greeted by a goodly number of Companions. The report of the audit committee, which was read, showed the Chapter, as stated, to be in a very satisfactory condition. E. Comp. Massey and staff conferred the Mark degree, the work from beginning to end being beyond criticism. Indeed, I never saw this degree worked better. I attended the regular meeting in May, when two candidates were “received and acknowledged.”

June 11th, on invitation I conferred the M. E. M. as restored, having for a candidate a reverend brother of exceptional merit. This Chapter opens, as all Chapters should do, on time. The officers are well supported by the Companions, and many past Principals, also R. E. Comp. W. H. Benson and R. E. Comp. T. C. MacNabb. The latter well known and distinguished Companion, through an injury, suffered the loss of his left eye. His recent reappearance amongst the Companions was hailed with delight.

The annual banquet on Dec. 23rd, which I had the privilege of attending, was a very brilliant affair. Wellington Chapter is in good hands, and will continue to do a good work for Capitular Masonry.

ERIE CHAPTER, No. 73, RIDGETOWN.—On April 12th I visited this Chapter, which had been unable to meet

since installation in January, owing to a smallpox outbreak. This being the first meeting, I decided to make one of the number. The weather was very stormy, and the attendance was very small. I addressed the Companions encouragingly, and promised to visit one month later. On May 18th I visited officially, and was heartily welcomed. All the officers were present. About fifteen Companions were present from Highgate, five miles distant, and only two Companions from Ridgetown proper. The First Principal, Ed. Long, and officers, conferred the Mark degree in a very creditable manner. A few suggestions made in criticism were very fraternally received. I invited the officers to work this degree at the proposed Chapter of Instruction. A banquet followed.

After the proposed Chapter of Instruction at Chatham was called off, I made an effort to effect a district gathering at Ridgetown, but whilst the Companions heartily favored it, the matter of expense blocked the scheme. There is no doubt that a district gathering at Ridgetown would very materially benefit Erie Chapter. A perusal of the register clearly indicates that, were it not for the enthusiastic support of out-of-town Companions, Erie Chapter would find it difficult to retain its warrant. R. E. Companions Middleditch and Williston, Scribe E., A. Long, and one or two others are the faithful few living in the town. At the same time, I am pleased to report a splendid set of officers. Ex. Z. Ed. Long and P. S. Ellwood drive fifteen and eighteen miles respectively, and are regular in attendance. The principal support seems to be derived from the Highgate Companions, and with this support and that of the others mentioned, the Chapter will continue to do good work, but Craftsmen living in the thriving town of Ridgetown should more fully appreciate Capitular Masonry, and lend better support to Erie Chapter, one of the oldest in the district.

PRINCE OF WALES CHAPTER, No. 71, AMHERSTBURG.
—This Chapter had a very successful year, adding sixteen new members. On the occasion of my official visit no less than nine were on hand for exaltation. Three were exalted in the afternoon, and six others in the evening.

The work of the First Principal, E. Companion Christiansen, and officers was all that could be desired; that of the P. S. was very pleasing also. The mystical lecture by E. Comp. Wilkinson was most impressive. This Companion is a very enthusiastic Mason, and takes great interest in Prince of Wales Chapter. A few suggestions were fraternally received. One to secure proper "Lights" was acted upon. On my second visit I found them correct and in proper position. One of two articles in the paraphernalia, copied from another jurisdiction, were intended for "physical impression" rather than sublime teaching. I trust they have since been dispensed with. The books are well kept, Scribe E., H. Hackett, being the right man in the right place. The ledger shows a good cash balance on the right side. Prince of Wales Chapter has a bright future. To the zeal and support of the Companions is due the successful Chapter of Instruction held under their warrant, for which my thanks are again tendered.

In October I had the pleasure of visiting St. George's Chapter, London, No. 2 district, and was very kindly received. Again, in December, I attended a most successful Chapter of Instruction held in the London temple under the warrants of St. George's and St. John's Chapters. I congratulate my esteemed colleague, R. E. Comp. Dr. Caw, on the success attending this important function.

While my report dwells largely with the quality of work, finances, etc., let me add that throughout the district those all-important lessons of exalted morality have not been neglected, harmony prevails, and a healthy, progressive spirit is found among the officers of the several Chapters.

Fraternally submitted,

ED. WORTH,

Grand Superintendent, St. Clair District, No. 1.

ST. CLAIR DISTRICT, No. 1.

Number.	Name of Chapter.	Location.	Annual dues per Member.	Regular Meetings.	Emergency.	Total.	Average attendance, Members.	Average attendance, Visitors.	Total.	No. Members Dec., 1902.	Petitions Accepted.	No. Candidates Initiated.	Affiliations.	Restorations.	Withdrawals.	Suspension.	Deaths.	No. of Members Dec., 1903.	M. M. M. Conferred.	M. E. M. Conferred.	Royal Arch Conferred.	No. Members 12 mos. in Arrears.	Liabilities of Chapter.	Assets of Chapter.	Cash or Securities.	Property.	Dues Outstanding.	Amount of Insurance.	Prospects of Chapter.	Can Ex. Z., work all Degrees?	
47	Wellington ...	Chatham	\$2 00	11	7	18	14	2	16	75	13	9	1	..	3	4	..	78	9	7	7	35	.....	\$300 00	\$110 00	....	..	\$142 00	\$200 00	Good	Yes
71	Pr. of Wales..	Amherstburg .	2 00	9	10	19	14	3	17	38	16	14	..	3	3	..	52	14	16	19	..	.....	.....	106 12	....	..	....	..	Good	Yes	Yes
73	Erie	Ridgetown ..	1 50	8	..	8	17	1	18	50	4	3	..	..	2	3	..	48	3	3	35	.....	94 00	31 00	\$300 00	....	..	....	200 00	Good	Yes
80	Ark	Windsor	3 00	7	6	13	16	1	17	98	7	7	..	1	5	..	1	100	7	7	530	.....	1105 00	355 00	500 00	....	250 00	300 00	Excellent	Yes	Yes
88	MacNabb	Dresden	1 80	10	1	11	16	3	19	39	6	4	..	..	1	..	1	41	4	4	..	.....	.....	48 00	....	..	68 00	...	Good	Yes	Yes
119	King Cyrus ..	Leamington ..	2 00	5	..	5	12	1	13	50	3	3	2	..	..	..	1	54	3	2	..	24	.....	173 00	23 00	150 00	123 00	200 00	Good	Yes	Yes

LONDON DISTRICT, No. 2.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

As Grand Superintendent of London District, No. 2, I take much pleasure in presenting my official report on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in this district for the past year. It gives me great pleasure to announce that harmony prevails throughout the jurisdiction, that all Chapters are in a flourishing condition, and that the incoming year promises to be the most prosperous in the history of this district. It is with regret I have to state that owing to professional duties I was unable to visit one of the London Chapters, but, from inquiries made, the growth of membership during the year, and the efficient work shown by some of its officers at the Chapter of Instruction, I can report favorably respecting it.

PALESTINE CHAPTER, NO. 54, ST. THOMAS.—Accompanied by E. Comp. W. Dawson, of Parkhill, I visited this Chapter on April 9th officially. Unfortunately this date conflicted with an arranged meeting in Hamilton of the Knights of Pythias, of which many of the Companions are also members. E. Comp. G. T. Kennedy and his officers conferred the R. A. degree on three candidates in a very efficient manner, one of the candidates being the W. M. of one of the blue lodges, and Comp. Kennedy is the W. M. of the other lodge—an evidence of the harmony existing between the lodges of that city. E. Comp. S. E. keeps his books in fine order. After the convocation a couple of hours were spent very pleasantly in speeches and songs. The prospects are very promising.

AYLMER CHAPTER, NO. 81, AYLME.—Good Friday, April 10th, saw us in this town. R. E. Comp. Rutherford and E. Comps. Moore and McCallum met us at the station and conducted us to our hotel, where a carriage was obtained, and, accompanied by R. E. Comps. Rutherford and Clarke and Comps. Moore and McCallum, we spent a couple of hours viewing the many industries and beautiful public buildings and residences. Our visit to

Aylmer was particularly pleasant to me owing to the meeting with our old friend R. E. Comp. Rutherford, whom I had the pleasure of exalting in 1871 in Minnewawa Chapter. E. Comp. Burdick and his officers exemplified the Royal Arch degree excellently, leaving but little room for criticism. The prospects are excellent. The "fourth" degree was unfortunately cut short by the announcement that our train for St. Thomas would soon be on hand.

WAWANOSH CHAPTER, NO. 15, SARNIA.—On Sept. 11th I visited this Chapter, accompanied by Comps. McLeod, Berry, Humphries, Dawson and Jones, of Minnewawa Chapter. On this occasion R. E. Comp. Geo. Wenino, Grand Registrar and First Principal, conferred the M. M. M. and M. E. M. degrees on three candidates, all in the most approved manner. The new work of the M. E. M. being so well and enthusiastically performed, I invited the officers of this Chapter to exemplify the M. E. M. degree at the Chapter of Instruction to be held in London. A number of years having intervened since I saw the M. E. M. in this form, it was a pleasing feature of the evening's work, and recalled a pleasant recollection of its interest years ago. The many remarks made respecting it backs up my conclusion, that its re-adoption was a move in the right direction to create interest in that degree. A very pleasant hour was spent at the banquet table. This is one of the most progressive Chapters of the district.

ST. GEORGE'S CHAPTER, NO. 5, LONDON.—I paid my official visit to this Chapter on Oct. 30th. Comps. Humphries and Dawson, of Parkhill, kindly accompanied me. Several brethren being in readiness, Ex. Comp. Keays and his regular officers conferred the degrees of M. M. M. and M. E. M. in an almost faultless manner. My visit to this Chapter was exceptionally pleasing, as I was exalted in it 34 years before. I also take this opportunity to thank the Chapter and Ex. Comp. C. C. Reed, Scribe E., for the presentation to me of a "real" St. George's penny, engraved on the reverse side with "St. George's R. A. Chapter, No. 5, London, Ont., 1870," with my mark within the circle, the engraving having been done

by Comp. Reed's son, who is also a Companion of this Chapter. We also had a short but pleasant visit from R. E. Comp. Worth, Grand Superintendent of St. Clair district, to complete arrangements for a joint Chapter of Instruction, which failed to be carried out, much to the regret of R. E. Comp. Worth and myself. St. George's is in good, capable hands. "May its shadow never grow less."

BRUCE CHAPTER, No. 53, PETROLEA.—This Chapter was visited officially by me on Nov. 18th. On this occasion the following Companions of Minnewawa accompanied me, viz.: Comps. Currie, Sutherland, McLeod, Humphries, Brand and Greenlees. We drove over from Forest, a distance of 22 miles. Our reception was most cordial. At the evening session E. Comp. Stinson, First Principal, exemplified the M. E. M. in a manner that showed he had given much attention to its preparation. R. E. Comp. John Sinclair takes an active interest in Capitular Masonry, and there are striking evidences that the Chapter is profiting by his long schooling in the art.

BEAVER CHAPTER, No. 74, STRATHROY.—Shortly after my appointment as Grand Superintendent I resolved, if possible, to resuscitate Beaver Chapter in the town of Strathroy. On investigation it was found that there were only four old Companions of Beaver living in Strathroy or within "hailing" distance, also that a large indebtedness was owing Grand Chapter for dues during the eleven years the Chapter was in a dormant state. Knowing that these conditions would prevent the resuscitation, I concluded to appeal to the members of the Executive of Grand Chapter, showing the conditions, with a confidence that they would agree with me that an active Chapter will be more advantageous than a dead one, especially in so productive a field as that in which old Beaver finds itself to-day. Happily those to whom I appealed agreed with my views, and seconded them so strongly that the M. E. Comp. A. Shaw, Grand First Principal, agreed to cancel the indebtedness, subject to the sanction of Grand Chapter, and I now appeal to Grand Chapter with a confidence that the efforts made and process taken to place Beaver Chapter in good stand-

ing will receive its approval. On October 9th a number of Companions of Minnewawa drove over with me to attend a regular meeting of Beaver Lodge, A. F. & A. M., called to lay before the brethren the proposition of resuscitation. After a lengthy discussion and the discovery that only four Royal Arch Masons lived in town, it was arranged that sufficient brethren should apply for membership in Minnewawa Chapter, and after exaltation they could then apply for the restoration of the warrant. On Nov. 4th, the most inclement night last fall, six brethren drove to Parkhill and were exalted to the supreme degree of the Holy Royal Arch. On Dec. 8th six Companions of Parkhill assisted me to restore the warrant under the approval of the Grand Council, and to instal the selected officers, which was done with the usual formalities. As a presage of success, four applications were received that night, and at the subsequent regular meeting three of the former applicants received the M. M. M. and M. E. M. degrees, and three new applications have been received. It gave me pleasure on the night of installation to greet R. E. Comp. Noble, a Past Grand Superintendent of this district, and formerly S. E. of Beaver. Success attend thee, Beaver!

MINNEWAWA CHAPTER, No. 78, PARKHILL.—This is the Chapter of which I am a member. I have attended all of its meetings during the year. I paid my official visit on Dec. 4th. All the officers are up in their work. Much credit is due to those from a distance for the interest that they take in the welfare of this Chapter, especially the First Principal, E. Comp. Geo. Sutherland, who attends regularly, although he has to drive twelve miles. The prospects are bright.

ST. JOHN'S CHAPTER, No. 3. LONDON.—Owing to professional duties it has proved next to impossible for me to visit this Chapter officially. I fixed a date in December, but with regret was forced to cancel it. As E. Comp. D. Fraser, First Principal, was acting Z., and conferred the Royal Arch degree on several brethren at the Chapter of Instruction, with several of his officers in minor positions, I adjudged from the excellent character of their work that the reputation for good work

is in the right hands, and cannot well be improved upon. My St. John's Companions will accept my apology for not visiting them.

A Chapter of Instruction was held in London on Nov. 13th, under the auspices of St. John's and St. George's Chapters. The M. M. M. degree was conferred on several candidates by E. Comp G. T. Kennedy and officers of St. Thomas. The M. E. M. degree, by R. E. Comp. Geo. Wenino, Grand Registrar, of Sarnia; the Royal Arch degree by Principals and officers of St. John's and St. George's, London, E. Comp. D. Fraser as First Principal of St. John's, and E. Comp. Keays, of St. George's, as Second Principal. The work in all degrees was excellently done, and the meeting must have a good effect throughout the district, as each Chapter was represented. It was a pleasure to have with us on that occasion a large number of Grand Chapter officers, viz.: M. E. Comps. A. Shaw and M. Walsh, R. E. Comp. Wm. Roaf, R. E. Comp. Ed. Worth, of St. Clair district, and the following of London district: R. E. Comps. H. Roe, J. S. Dewar, A. E. Cooper, A. G. McWhinney and J. W. Butler, besides a large concourse of E. Companions and Companions of that and adjoining districts. Much valuable instruction and information was given in the Chapter after work was completed and at the banquet held in the hall adjoining. On behalf of the district, I tender the hearty appreciation of the Companions of the district to the officers and Companions of the London Chapters for their hospitality on that occasion.

I regret that owing to the delay of some of the Scribes E. of the Chapters in sending in their reports, I have delayed this report beyond reasonable time in order to make it complete, if possible.

In conclusion, as my period of office is drawing to a close, I desire to express my thanks to the members of Grand Council, especially to R. E. Comp. Geo. J. Bennett, Grand Scribe E., for his unvarying kindness. To Scribe, E., C. C. Reed and the officers of St. John's and St. George's Chapters, London, for their readiness and

lively interest in the success of the Chapter of Instruction, and to all the other Companions of the district for their universal fraternal good-will. "May the blessing of the Great Jehovah be ever with us."

Fraternally submitted,

WM. CAW,

Grand Superintendent, London District, No. 2.

LONDON DISTRICT No. 2.

Name.	Location.
Regular Meetings,	
Emergent.	
Total.	
Average attendance, Members.	
Average attendance, Visitors.	
As per last Return.	
Petitions Accepted.	
Initiations.	
Affiliations.	
Restorations.	
Withdrawals.	
Suspensions	
Deaths.	
Present Number.	
M. M. M. Conferred.	
M. E. M. Conferred.	
R. A. Conferred.	
Annual Dues.	
No. 12 Months in Arrears.	
Liabilities of Chapter.	
Cash or Securities.	
Property.	
Dues Outstanding.	
Insurance.	
Prospects of Chapter.	
Can Z. work all Degrees ?	

No. 15, Wawanosh, Sarnia, after having been twice notified have not yet sent in report.

WILSON DISTRICT, No. 3.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals, and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

As Grand Superintendent, I beg to submit this my brief report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in Wilson District, No. 3, which is composed of the following Chapters: Oxford, No. 18, Woodstock; Mount Horeb, No. 20, Brantford; Ezra, No. 23, Simcoe; Harris, No. 41, Ingersoll; and Brant, No. 115, Paris.

Almost immediately after my election to office I tendered the office of district secretary to Comp. Thompson, who accepted, and during the year I had the greatest assistance through his untiring efforts to aid me in every possible manner. It affords me great pleasure to report that harmony and peace have prevailed; all the Chapters in the district are in a flourishing condition. The work seen by me on my visits was exceedingly good, and the Companions evinced a feeling that would impress one that Capitular Masonry in this district has before it a bright and prosperous future.

BRANT CHAPTER, No. 115, PARIS.—On the 2nd of November I paid my official visit to this Chapter. I was met at the train by R. E. Comp. S. Y. Taylor, Past G. S., and E. Comp. Jas. Smiley, and I must thank the officers and Companions of this Chapter for their great kindness to me on my first official visit to any Chapter. E. Comp. Smiley and his officers exemplified the Mark degree in an admirable manner. The Chapter is fortunate in the possession of such an enthusiastic and capable worker as R. E. Comp. S. Y. Taylor. I found the books of the Chapter kept in a correct and perfect manner. The most interesting part of the evening was the visit of a contingent of eighteen Companions from Mount Horeb Chapter, No. 20, Brantford. These Chapters make many fraternal visits, which I am sure is the life of any Chapter. After the closing of the Chapter a banquet was held. A most successful and pleasant evening was brought to a close by singing "Auld Lang Syne."

MOUNT HOREB CHAPTER, NO. 20, BRANTFORD.—I made my official visit to this Chapter on the 6th November. I was met at the train by R. E. Comp. H. Spence. A very large number of Companions were present, as well as many visiting Companions from other Chapters. The Royal Arch degree was conferred by E. Comp. McCormack and his staff of officers on four candidates in a highly creditably manner. Much of the success of this Chapter is due to the counsel and assistance rendered by R. E. Comp. J. H. Spence. The books of Comp. Kerr, S.E., are models of neatness, and his minutes are admirably written up in clear style. It is an assured fact that there is a bright and prosperous future in store for this Chapter. At the close we adjourned to a splendid banquet in the supper hall, and a most enjoyable hour was spent in speech and song. Happy to meet, sorry to part, happy to meet again.

OXFORD CHAPTER, NO. 18, WOODSTOCK.—My visit to this Chapter on the 16th November was a very pleasant experience. Owing to it being a very wet, disagreeable night, there was a small attendance; no candidate was available, but the Principals and officers demonstrated their ability to do impressive work by exemplifying the Mark degree. The work was done with accuracy and in a manner that was very effective and satisfactory. V. E. Comp. Karn was present. He takes a very active interest in the Chapter, and is always ready with his assistance and advice whenever it is required. E. Companion H. A. Biggins, S.E., keeps the books of the Chapter in an up-to-date style. The Companions seem to have the welfare of their Chapter at heart.

EZRA CHAPTER, NO. 23, SIMCOE.—I visited this my mother Chapter on the evening of November 27th, accompanied by R. E. Comp. J. G. Bottomley, Grand Superintendent of Niagara district. There was a very large number of Companions present, also visiting Companions from Hamilton, Niagara and St. Catharines. The Royal Arch degree was conferred on five candidates in a highly commendable manner, every officer doing his work exceedingly well. This has been the record year for this Chapter. I believe I am safe in saying that

there has been a greater number of applications accepted this year than in any year in the history of the Chapter, as the enclosed tabulated statement will show. This is without question the banner Chapter of the district. At the close of the Chapter the Companions adjourned to a banquet held in the nice little supper hall, where we were well entertained for the balance of the evening.

HARRIS CHAPTER, No. 41, INGERSOLL.—It is a matter of deep regret to me that I was unable to visit this Chapter. Upon the evening at first appointed I learned from the Chapter by telegram that owing to several of the Companions having made arrangements to visit a Chapter of Instruction in London on that date, it would be advisable to postpone my visit until the regular meeting in December, to which postponement I agreed. The next engagement, owing to circumstances over which I had no control, prevented me from visiting the Chapter on the date arranged. From all that I have heard and know of the Companions, and while under the guiding hand of the M. E. Comp. Walsh, P.G.Z., the future prosperity of this Chapter must be bright. I still hope to have the pleasure of visiting this Chapter before my term of office expires.

My work has been completed, with the exception of visiting Harris Chapter, No. 41, Ingersoll, and I wish to express my sincere thanks to those who elected me to this honorable position and so ably assisted me in the discharge of my various duties. For the officers and Companions of the Chapters where I have visited I have only words of praise to offer. I have found them ever ready and willing to assist in every way that would be of service to their Chapters. Much of the success and the pleasure of my visits are due to their loyal support and encouragement. And finally, my Companions, I appreciate the honor you have conferred, and I shall endeavor to continue to labor for the welfare and prosperity of the Companions who have given me light and honor.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT S. MCGILL,

Grand Superintendent, Wilson District, No. 3.

WILSON DISTRICT, No. 3.

[illegible]

WELLINGTON DISTRICT, No. 4.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals, and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

I beg leave to report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in Wellington District, No. 4, which consists of the following Chapters: Waterloo, No. 3, Galt; Guelph, No. 40, Guelph; Enterprise, No. 27, Harriston; Ionic, No. 83, Orangeville, and Berlin, No. 117, Berlin.

I have visited all the Chapters in the district, and I am pleased to state that there is not a murmur of complaint, that all is peace and harmony.

IONIC CHAPTER, No. 83.—I visited this Chapter on June the 16th, 1903, accompanied by E. Companion Fisher, First Principal of Enterprise Chapter, No. 67, and R. E. Companion Hepburn, of Guelph Chapter, No. 40. We received a hearty welcome from the Companions. They expected work in the M. M. M. degree, but the candidate did not put in an appearance; therefore, there was no work to do, but I can with confidence report that they can do the work well, and by what I saw I can speak favorably of the officers of this Chapter.

GUELPH CHAPTER, No. 40.—I visited this Chapter on July the 10th, 1903, accompanied by E. Companion Ballins and Companion Patterson, of Harriston. I feel at home in Guelph Chapter, for I have known some of the Companions ever since I was first a member. We were well received, but there was no work that evening, only the election and installation of officers, for which they held a dispensation recommended by myself. After election they were installed by R. E. Companion Mahoney, in his usual efficient manner. They had on that occasion three applications for membership. This Chapter is one of the best in the district, but it will have to look out. It is not increasing as it ought to, only about holding its own. A good staff of officers has been installed, and we may confidently expect they will have more work to do in the year 1904.

BERLIN CHAPTER, No. 117, BERLIN.—I communicated with Companion Saunders, Scribe E., to let me know when it would be most convenient for me to make my official visit. I received a reply from Companion Cornell, Scribe E. *pro tem.*, instructed by the First Principal, that owing to the absence of some of the officers and members, they might not be able to have a meeting in September, but they would be pleased to see me in October. They had an emergency meeting on the 6th of October, 1903, at which I was present, accompanied by R. E. Companion Mahoney, of Guelph. They had just a quorum, some of the officers being absent. I cannot understand what is the matter with this Chapter. The Companions have a splendid suite of rooms, and the Companions present, as far as I could see, could do the work well. They had one application for membership, and their prospects are good. I do not see why this should not be one of the best Chapters in the district. I hope they will have more work and better attendance in the future.

ENTERPRISE CHAPTER, No. 67, HARRISTON.—This is the Chapter to which I belong, and I have attended every meeting during the year. but paid my official visit on November 2nd, 1903. I was honored by the Chapter giving me the privilege of inviting M. E. Companion A. Shaw, Grand Z., to pay us a visit that evening, which he accepted, and Enterprise Chapter was highly honored by his presence. On that occasion the Royal Arch degree was conferred on five candidates, R. E. Companion Mahoney being in the chair, by request of Companion Dowling, whose son was one of the candidates. We all know that Companion Mahoney can do the work well, and he was ably assisted by the M. E. Companion Grand Z. and the officers of the Chapter, who filled their positions with credit. They also had an election of officers, and I am pleased to say there never was a better class selected in this Chapter. We had a good meeting, and one that will be remembered by the Companions. We got some good advice from the distinguished visitor.

WATERLOO CHAPTER, No. 32, GALT.—I visited this Chapter on the 9th of November, 1903, accompanied by

Companion Copland. On arriving at the station we were met by R. E. Companion Cowan and Companion Blake, Scribe E., who gave us a hearty welcome to Galt, and guided us to the Chapter room, where there was a full house of bright Companions. The work of the evening was the election of officers and the conferring of the Royal Arch degree on two candidates. The First Principal being from home, the chair was taken by R. E. Companion Taylor. I found all the officers well up in their work, indeed I may say I never saw the work better done. This is a live Chapter, made up of the right material, such as R. E. Companions Taylor, Porteous, Cowan, etc.

I wish to thank the Companions of all the Chapters in the district for the kindness shown me when visiting them, and I wish to thank the Companions of my own Chapter who accompanied me on these visits.

In conclusion, I have to say that I am satisfied in retiring from office that Wellington district is in a healthy state.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

JOHN PRAIN,

Grand Superintendent, Wellington District, No. 4.

WELLINGTON DISTRICT, NO. 4.

Number.		Name.	Location.																	Prospects of Chapter.	Amount of Insurance.	Can E. Z. work all Deg's.					
				Regular Meetings.	Emergent.	Total.	Average attendance, Members.	Average attendance, Visitors.	As per last Return.	Petitions Accepted.	Initiations.	Affiliations.	Restorations.	Withdrawals.	Suspensions.	Deaths.	Present Members.	M. M. M. Conferred.	M. E. M. Conferred.				R. A. Conferred.	Amount of Dues.	No. Members 12 mos. in Arrears.	Liabilities.	Cash or Securities.	Property.	Dues Outstanding.
32	Waterloo	Galt	10	5	15	16	7	58	19	16	...	...	4	...	69	16	15	13	\$2 00	11	...	\$250 00	\$150 00	\$48 00	Good	\$250 00	Yes
40	Guelpb	Guelpb	10	10	17	...	75	3	3	...	...	4	...	2	72	3	3	3	2 00	17	...	64 00	405 00	100 00	Bright	...	Yes
67	Enterprise....	Harrison	12	1	13	20	76	11	11	...	...	1	...	...	88	11	11	11	1 00	6	...	514 57	300 00	59 50	Very Bright	200 00	Yes
83	Ionic	Orangeville ..	5	2	7	12	66	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	70	4	4	2	1 00	26	...	375 00	300 00	58 00	Good	200 00	Yes
117	Berlin	Berlin	5	6	11	9	132	5	5	1	...	2	...	...	38	5	3	3	2 00	11	...	250 00	250 00	87 00	Better	...	Yes

HAMILTON DISTRICT No. 5.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals, and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

I have the honor to present my report on the condition of Royal Craft Masonry in the Hamilton District, No. 5, for the year 1903. The district is composed of four Chapters, namely: Hiram, No. 2, Hamilton; St. John's, No. 6, Hamilton; St. Clair, No. 75, Milton, and White Oak, No. 104, Oakville.

After my election to the position of Superintendent I tendered the office of district secretary to R. E. Companion W. J. McAllister, who accepted it, but owing to a chain of adverse circumstances he was prevented from fulfilling the duties pertaining to that office.

When I entered upon my duties as Superintendent I had the most pleasant experience of meeting with the utmost kindness and assurance of the support and hearty co-operation of the past Superintendents, officers and members of the different Chapters, which it is needless to say I appreciated very much.

I visited all the Chapters, and found them in a prosperous condition, as is evidenced by a reference to the statistical report.

Harmony prevailed throughout the district, and a laudable rivalry and ambition seemed to inspire the officers and members to put forth more effort towards perfecting the working of the degrees, and from their example as Royal Arch Masons to induce others to join the Royal Craft. The result has been most satisfactory, not only as to the conferring of the degrees, but also to the large increase in membership.

It was my pleasant duty during the summer to present formally the Chapters Hiram, No. 2, and St. John, No. 6, Hamilton, with a beautiful set of regalia for each, to be worn by the officers in the work of conferring of degrees, and on other occasions when duty required it. Also, through the kindness of R. E. Comp. Geo. Moore,

to present St. John's, No. 6, Hamilton, with a box of British pennies, to be used in conferring the Mark degree. R. E. Comp. Moore likewise presented Hiram, No. 2, with a similar box. The officers of those Chapters appreciate these kind attentions shown by the R. E. Companion.

According to the resolution of the Grand Chapter at its last convocation, the M. E. Master degree was restored in its entirety. In discussing the resolution some expressed a fear that the added work might prove to be too much for those who had devoted their time to acquire it in its abbreviated form, but from the manner in which the officers in the Hamilton district took hold and exemplified this degree, as it was my pleasure to witness, I may say that their fears were groundless, as far as it applied to this district.

ST. CLAIR, No. 75, MILTON.—I visited this Chapter in the autumn, but owing to inclement weather and bad roads there was not a sufficient number present to open the Chapter, and proceed with the work. On that occasion, however, I met the principal officers, who assured me that the Chapter was doing well, and was fulfilling the promise given by R. E. Companion Moore in his report for the year 1902.

HIRAM CHAPTER, No. 2, HAMILTON.—Although I had been a frequent visitor ever since my election as Grand Superintendent, I paid my official visit to this Chapter on November 27th. Your representative was very cordially received and welcomed by the officers and members. There were present a number of visiting Companions from Milton, Oakville, Grimsby and St. John's, Hamilton. This Chapter has had an unusually successful year. They have held twelve regular and four emergent meetings, and have received thirty-three new members, being a record year, and seven more than last year, having conferred ninety-six degrees. The zeal manifested in the cause of Royal Arch Masonry by the officers and members of Hiram Chapter is worthy of emulation. E. Comp. Pierce has been indefatigable in his labors to advance the cause of Royal Craft Masonry,

and has been ably assisted by his officers. This interest has resulted in the perfecting the work of the different degrees, so as to enable the officers to present them in such a manner as to leave little to be desired in their rendition. Having had frequent opportunities prior to this meeting of witnessing the excellence of the work, it had been decided not to exemplify any of the degrees, but devote the time to the receiving and welcoming of visitors in their usual hospitable manner, and the election of officers for the ensuing year, which I had the honor to conduct, and from the selection made I feel assured that another successful year will follow. R. E. Comp. Moore has done much to assist the officers of Hiram Chapter in attaining that efficiency which makes for perfection. I appointed V. E. Comp. J. T. Wilson to act as district secretary *pro tem.*, who examined the secretary's books, and he reported that the books of Scribe E. were well and efficiently kept, and that the Chapter was highly prosperous. R. E. Comp. F. Walter makes an excellent secretary, and the Chapter is to be congratulated upon being able to retain his services in that capacity. After the Hiram Chapter was closed the Companions were invited to partake of some refreshment in the banqueting hall, after which the Ex. Z. informed the Companions that they had gone to a good deal of trouble in getting together a number of musicians, and that the programme would be composed largely of songs and instrumental music, and he expressed the desire that the speakers would be brief, consequently the speeches were short, crisp and to the point. The Companions were delighted with the musical portion of the programme, as well as with the speeches.

ST. JOHN'S CHAPTER, NO. 6, HAMILTON.—This being my mother Chapter, I have been in constant touch with the officers and members during the year, and have witnessed the progress made with more than ordinary interest. Towards the close of the year 1902 the past Principals met to confer with each other to devise a way out of the difficulty which had overtaken the Chapter through electing an Ex. Companion to be First Principal who was opposed to assuming the responsibilities pertaining to that office, but who, after promises of support

and assistance from past Principals, afterward consented to take the position. The result has already been made known by my predecessor. The result of this conference was the selection of R. E. Comp. D. McPhie to be First Principal for the year 1903, who after some deliberation consented to allow his name to be placed in nomination, and he was unanimously elected. Although it was about twenty-six years since he occupied the chair of Z., and the ritual having been revised in the meantime, it served to make the position more difficult for him, because of having to unlearn, as it were, much of what was necessary at that time. He, however, nothing daunted, applied himself to the task, and accomplished it, much to his credit. He applied his experience of past years, and succeeded in placing the Chapter in a satisfactory condition, having added eighteen new members to the roll during the year. He was instrumental in having nine Past Principal's jewels presented to as many Past Z.'s of St. John's Chapter, believing that it was not good Masonry to select only a few and honor them, to the exclusion of others who had preceded them.

I paid my official visit on the 14th of December, this being the night of the Past Principals' reunion, and it had been intimated that the Grand Chapter officers and a deputation from Toronto would be present on that night, to do honor to M. E. Comp. Wm. Gibson, Past Grand Z. of Grand Chapter, who is a Past Principal of St. John's, No. 6. The Companions under these circumstances concluded that the regular Chapter room would not be large enough to accommodate the brethren. They obtained the consent of the officers of the different Scottish Rite bodies to use their rooms. The Grand Chapter officers present were: M. E. Comp. Shaw, Grand Z.; R. E. Comps. Roaf, Bennett, Eakins, Webster, Bicknell, Allan, M. E. Comp. Murray and others. M. E. Comp. Shaw in a few appropriate remarks, explained the reason and object of their presence there that night, and said many complimentary things about M. E. Comp. Gibson, and that the Grand Chapter wished to give some tangible evidence of their esteem and affection for him. M. E. Comp. Murray read a beautifully illuminated address, and R. E. Comp. Bennett presented M. E. Comp.

Gibson with a large silver tureen, tray and ladles. M. E. Comp. Gibson replied feelingly, and said he doubted if he really deserved the high encomiums that had been expressed by the different speakers, and as contained in the address.

An incident worthy of record occurred that evening. R. E. Comp. J. M. Gibson occupied the First Principal's chair, R. E. Comp. McPhie the second, and M. E. Comp. Wm. Gibson the third. R. E. Comp. Gibson announced that it was twenty-seven years ago since "we three" occupied these chairs as they did that night in the same relative positions. This is indeed something unusual, and was a source of gratification to the Companions present. The Royal Arch degree was then conferred on two candidates by the Past Principals, R. E. Comp. D. McPhie acting as Z., assisted by R. E. Companions Miller, Birrell and V. E. Companions Pedler and Wilson. After the election of officers for the ensuing year, which I had the honor to conduct, the Chapter was closed by M. E. Comp. Shaw, and an adjournment was made to the banquet room, where refreshments were served, followed by the usual toasts, speeches and songs from a number of the Companions, which were much enjoyed.

WHITE OAK CHAPTER, NO. 104, OAKVILLE.—I visited this Chapter officially on Dec. 15th, 1903, accompanied by R. E. Comps. Geo. Moore and F. Walter. M. E. Comp. W. G. Reid joined us in Oakville. The Ex. Companion, the First Principal and Companions extended to me a hearty and fraternal welcome. I found this Chapter in excellent condition, notwithstanding their limited territory, and having to depend upon the blue lodge at Oakville entirely from which to recruit its members. They have accepted five petitions and installed four candidates. E. Comp. Marlatt and the officers exemplified the Royal Arch degree upon three brethren, who came up for exaltation. After witnessing the work, I felt great pleasure in complimenting the Chapter upon having such competent and efficient officers, who were able to present to the candidates this beautiful degree with so much expression, as well as accuracy in the rendition of it.

I think that it is only right to make special mention of this fact, seeing that with a very limited membership they can obtain Companions in sufficient numbers to fill the various offices so efficiently as was done on this occasion, and are worthy of the praise given them. I appointed R. E. Comp. Walter district secretary *pro tem.*, who reported that the books were well kept by Comp. W. O. Joyce, as Scribe E. I had occasion to congratulate the Chapter in having so able and competent an officer as Comp. Joyce. After the Chapter was closed the Companions were invited to partake of the hospitality of White Oak Chapter. Companion Williams had prepared a most bountiful supply of the good things of life. Short speeches and songs followed until we were notified that the time had come to start for the station.

ST. CLAIR CHAPTER, No. 75, MILTON.—I paid my official visit to this Chapter, accompanied by R. E. Comp. George Moore, on December 17th. E. Comp. Somerville and Companions received me very cordially. I found that the time and attention given to the Chapter by R. E. Comp. Moore had already resulted in great good. Harmony and good-feeling prevailed among the Companions, an enthusiasm, zeal and expressed desire to place the Chapter in the position which it once occupied among sister Chapters seemed to animate the minds of all. The result of all this is that they have accepted twelve petitions and initiated nine candidates, and with more cash on hand than will meet their liabilities. I had the pleasure of conducting the election of officers for the ensuing year, which resulted as follows: E. Companions F. A. Brown, of Weston, Z.; W. Stack, of Acton, as H.; J. Mackinnon, of Acton, as J.; R. E. Comp. A. Fraser, Treasurer; R. E. Comp. Wm. Panton, Scribe E.; Companions J. Irving, Scribe N; J. W. Elliott, P.S.; H. Howes, Janitor; Comps. Bews and Wynn, Auditors. You will observe that the three Principals are not residents of Milton, but live at some distance from the seat of their duties; but the enthusiasm of the Companions elected will compensate for their being non-residents. Some of them drive twelve miles to attend Chapter meetings. The officers exemplified the degree of M.E.M., and with the assistance of R. E. Comp

Moore, the Royal Arch degree very creditably indeed. I, in the absence of the district secretary, examined the books of Scribe E., and found them well kept. The dues are well paid, only \$65.38 outstanding, and a considerable amount of this sum will be paid in before the end of the year. Altogether, the Chapter is in a very prosperous state, and the prospects for the ensuing year are good. After the Chapter was closed the Companions adjourned to the banquet prepared by Companion McGibbon, which was enjoyed by all. Afterwards a short time was devoted to speeches from different Companions, all of whom testified to the sound footing and sure success in the future of St. Clair Chapter.

In conclusion, I desire to express my sincere thanks to R. E. Comps. Geo. Moore, F. Walter and D. McPhie for their counsel and advice, and for kindness extended to me; also to the officers and members in the district in electing me to the position of Grand Superintendent, and I pray that the Great Jehovah may be ever with you and bless you in your journeyings through life.

A. T. NEILL,

Grand Superintendent, Hamilton District, No. 5.

HAMILTON DISTRICT, NO. 5.

[illegible]

HURON DISTRICT, No. 6.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

As Grand Superintendent of Huron District, No. 6, I have the honor to submit my report on the general condition of Capitular Masonry in this district.

It affords me great pleasure to report that harmony and peace have reigned supreme during the present year. All the Chapters are doing efficient work, and, thanks to my predecessors in office, I find the work very uniformly done. To my mind this is due to the fact that there are many young Companions in office who are enthusiastic in ritualistic perfection. I regret to have to report that it has been impossible for me to visit Lebanon Chapter, No. 84, Wingham. On two different occasions I tried to arrange a visit, but owing to absease of their principal officers they were unable to call a convocation. My profession of teaching has prevented me from making my visits on other than Friday nights. At the last regular meeting of Lebanon Chapter the almost impassable state of the roads in this northern part rendered a 28-mile drive and return the same night impossible.

There has, as the returns will show, been an increase in the membership of this district during the year, and the enthusiasm which prevails will without doubt ensure the same in the ensuing year.

I desire to thank the Scribes E. of the various Chapters for the regularity with which the notices of meetings have been forwarded to me.

As my idea of a Grand Superintendent's report is that of general rather than of a particular nature, it is not my intention to refer to the individual members of a Chapter.

TECUMSEH CHAPTER, No. 24, STRATFORD.—My visit to this Chapter was a very pleasant one. The R. A. degree was conferred in a manner that did not call for

criticism. They have the room in which good work can be done, and, above this, they have the officers, who have the ability to confer the degree in a manner that must leave a deep impression on the mind of every candidate for this supreme degree. The attendance at this meeting was not as large as the membership would indicate it should be, but I wish to say that those present did not lack enthusiasm in the work. I consider Tecumseh the banner Chapter of this district.

ST. JAMES' CHAPTER, NO. 46, ST. MARY'S.—The prospects of this Chapter are brighter than for some time. They are getting some new blood from outside of the town, and are initiating them into the work. At my visit there was a small attendance, and the First Principal was indisposed. The exemplification of the Mark Master Mason's degree was done with accuracy, and I am pleased to be able to report that the officers of this Chapter are enthusiastic in their work and strict ritualists. They are likewise fortunate in having Past Principals who have not allowed their zeal for Masonry to lessen after having had bestowed upon them the highest gift in the hands of their Companions.

HURON CHAPTER, NO. 30, GODERICH.—This Chapter was visited by me on the evening of April 16th. There was a fair attendance, and, from what I could learn, there is every prospect that there will be a flourishing Chapter in Goderich for some time to come. The exemplification of the M. M. M. degree was fairly well done, and, judging from the talent this Chapter possesses, can be well done. The social side of Masonry is not neglected. Around the festive board during the progress of "the fourth degree" I became aware of the fact that Huron Chapter possesses a number of members who can tell a story with dramatic effect. This talent applied in the Chapter in conferring degrees would enable them to confer a degree in a manner second to no other Chapter in the district. It will always be a source of pleasure to recall my visit to this Chapter. I regret to have to record the death of E. Comp. F. T. J. Naftel, Z. of this Chapter.

ELLIOT CHAPTER, No. 129, MITCHELL.—On April 14th I paid my official visit to this Chapter. The officers demonstrated their ability to confer the M. M. M. degree in a very impressive manner. There was a snap to the work, an earnestness, indicative of an appreciation of the importance of conferring the degree in a manner which would impress the candidate that was gratifying to me. Knowing that the guiding hand in all the work of this Chapter is a most enthusiastic Mason, and Past Grand Superintendent, it would have been a disappointment to me to have seen the work done otherwise than in a creditable manner. The prospects of this Chapter are, I think, good, although the field for material is not large.

SAUGEEN CHAPTER, No. 50, WALKERTON.—This being the Chapter in my own town I had abundant opportunities of becoming intimately acquainted with the work of the officers. During the past year I have seen all of the degrees conferred by the officers, and in a fairly creditable manner. Saugeen numbers among its members several who are advanced in years, and who shrink from taking an active part in working the degrees. The younger members will, however, make splendid officers in time. The Chapter is making steady progress, and I think has a fair future before it. It reckons among its members six who were members of the old Saugeen Chapter of twenty-two years ago, and they have lost none of their love for Capitular Masonry.

THE MALLOCH CHAPTER, No. 66, SEAFORTH.—This is my mother Chapter, and it afforded me the greatest of pleasure to renew old associations in my visit. I made my official visit on the evening of April 13th. The degree of M. M. M. was conferred in a manner that was a credit to the Chapter. The Malloch Chapter is fortunate in the possession of experienced, enthusiastic, and capable workers. Besides this, they are to be congratulated on the interest manifested in the success of the Chapter by all the past First Principals. The books of the S. E. and the treasurer are neatly and correctly kept. This Chapter is prospering and will continue to

do so, as long as it has the same enthusiastic workers in the cause of Capitular Masonry.

HAVELOCK CHAPTER, No. 63, KINCARDINE.—My official visit to this Chapter was paid on Friday evening, Jan. 15, 1904. I had looked forward to this visit for some time, and was not disappointed in my expectations. The drive of twenty-eight miles over roads almost impassable, and the return through a regular blizzard, did not even destroy the pleasure of my visit. In this trip I was accompanied by the First Principal of Havelock, who is now a resident of Walkerton.

The M. E. M. degree was conferred on two candidates in a most satisfactory manner. The officers of Havelock Chapters have for years been inclined to follow the original method of conferring this degree, and I had the pleasure of seeing it given in that form. It was most impressively given. With all due respect to those who restored this degree in its present form, I must confess that in floor work, the burning of the incense, etc., as given by Havelock Chapter, it exceeds in beauty and impressiveness the present work.

I regret to have to report the death of R. E. Comp. De Witt H. Martyn, a member of this Chapter, and Grand H. of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

In obedience to request, I attended the funeral of the deceased R. E. Comp. as the representative of Grand Chapter. The number of Masons in attendance, as well as the number of citizens, testify to the high esteem in which he was held, not only by the Masons of this district and Ontario, but also by his fellow-men in this western part. Havelock Chapter will miss him.

CHANCERY CHAPTER, No. 130, SOUTHAMPTON.—What shall I say regarding this, the baby Chapter of Huron district? This much I can say with truth, that the officers and Companions have enough energy, enthusiasm and vitality to supply every Chapter in the district, and to have sufficient to supply their own needs in addition. I visited this Chapter on the 19th of March and installed the officers. It was indeed a pleasure to be privileged

to present them with the warrant from Grand Chapter. I feel confident that, on this Chapter Grand Chapter will not have bestowed its honors in vain. In the short time since its foundation the Companions have equipped their quarters with all necessary furniture and paraphernalia. They are free from debt, have a surplus in the treasurer's hands and a membership of thirty-eight. They have reason to be proud of their record. In addition to this they are second to none as entertainers. I predict for them future success.

LEBANON CHAPTER, No. 84, WINGHAM.—As stated in the first part of this report, I did not visit this Chapter. While attending a Lodge of Instruction in Wingham I met a number of members of Lebanon; and would infer from conversation with them that the predictions of my immediate predecessor in office, R. E. Comp. J. Russell Stuart, are being fulfilled.

In conclusion, I desire to thank the officers and Comps. of the various Chapters for the many acts of kindness, courtesy and respect shown me in my visits. I have tried to fulfil my duty to the best of my ability and trust that my efforts may result in some measure to the advancement of the cause of Capitular Masonry. In all of my visits it has been my earnest endeavor to impress upon the Companions the necessity of some organized, systematic method of relieving the necessities of worthy Companions.

Fraternally submitted,

R. C. CHESWRIGHT,

Grand Suprintendent, Huron District, No. 6.

HURON DISTRICT, No. 6.

Number.	Name of Chapter.	Location.	Regular Meetings.	Emergent.	Total.	Average attendance, Members.	Average attendance, Visitors.	No. Members Dec., 1902.	Petitions Accepted.	No. Candidates Initiated.	Affiliations.	Restorations.	Withdrawals.	Suspension.	Deaths.	No. of Members Dec., 1903.	M. M. M. Conferred.	M. E. M. Conferred.	Royal Arch Conferred.	Annual dues per Member.	No. Members 12 mos. in Arrears.	Liabilities of Chapter.	Dues Outstanding	Cash or Securities.	Property.	Total.	Amount of Insurance.	Prospects of Chapter.	Can Ex. Z., work all Degrees?
24	Tecumseh	Stratford	8	3	11	15	2	103	9	10	1	1	2	...	1	112	10	9	9	\$1 50	4	...	\$100 71	\$75 86	\$250 00	\$325 86	\$175 00	Good	Yes
30	Huron	Goderich	6	5	11	19	1	72	4	2	1	...	1	1	1	74	2	2	2	2 00	43	...	176 25	50 00	250 00	300 00	150 00	Good	Yes
46	St. James	St. Marys	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
50	Saugen	Walkerton	8	2	10	10	1	16	3	3	1	...	...	...	...	20	3	2	2	2 50	10	...	37 50	...	100 00	100 00	...	Fair	Yes
53	Havelock	Kinrossville	7	1	8	12	1	51	3	3	...	5	...	1	...	48	3	2	2	2 00	...	...	45 00	125 00	375 00	500 00	2000 00	Excellent	Yes
66	Malloch	Seaford	7	2	9	15	2	32	6	5	...	1	1	...	...	36	5	5	5	3 00	2	...	55 50	65 00	175 00	240 00	150 00	Good	Yes
74	Lebanon	Wingham	9	1	10	13	...	39	8	6	...	...	...	...	...	41	6	10	9	3 00	7	...	56 75	138 51	...	138 51	...	Fair	No
109	Elliot	Mitchell	6	3	9	13	...	31	5	4	1	...	2	...	...	34	4	4	2	1 50	13	...	86 00	50 00	150 00	200 00	100 00	Fair	No
139	Charity	Southampton	11	6	17	16	3	32	9	6	...	...	...	...	...	38	4	6	6	2 50	...	...	...	25 00	300 00	325 00	200 00	Good	Yes

NIAGARA DISTRICT, NO. 7.

*To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principal; and
Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada:*

As Grand Superintendent of the Niagara district I have the honor to submit my report on the condition of the Royal Craft therein since I assumed the duties of the office in January, 1903. The Chapters comprising the district are Mount Moriah, No. 19, St. Catharines; McCallum, No. 29, Dunnville; Niagara, No. 55, Niagara-on-the-Lake; King Hiram, No. 57, Port Colborne; Wilson, No. 64, Welland; Grimsby, No. 69, Grimsby, and Mount Nebo, No. 76, Niagara Falls S. I have visited all the Chapters officially and have had the opportunity and pleasure of making fraternal calls upon three of them frequently, and I am pleased to be able to say that peace and harmony prevail, that every Chapter within the district is making progress, and that the officers for the ensuing year are all capable, energetic and zealous craftsmen, who can and will confer the different degrees in an efficient and impressive manner.

MOUNT NEBO, NO. 76, NIAGARA FALLS CITY.—On November 13th I made my first official visit to this Chapter, accompanied by E. Comp. John H. Brown, and Companions P. E. Best, W. R. McClelland, R. Briggs and W. E. Lyall, of Niagara-on-the-Lake. The M. E. M. and R. A. degrees were conferred in a very creditable and impressive manner by V. E. Comp. E. E. Frazer, First Principal, assisted by E. Comp. Slogget, Past Z. The different officers did their work excellently, and I was particularly pleased with the work of Companion McPhail, Principal Sojourner, while the musical part of the ceremony was very impressive. There was a very large attendance, including visiting Companions from St. Catharines, Niagara Falls, N.Y., and other places. The banquet which followed was thoroughly enjoyed by all, and loyalty and patriotism overflowed in speech, song and story. The future of this Chapter is assured, and it will, without a doubt, be the banner Chapter of this

district, and will in future be known as Mount Nebo, No. 76. Niagara Falls City, Canada.

MOUNT MORIAH CHAPTER, NO. 19, ST. CATHARINES.—I visited this historic Chapter December 4th, there being no work the officers worked the M. M. M. degree for me, and it is needless for me to say that it was well done. There was a good attendance, particularly of Past Z.'s, which speaks volumes for the welfare of the Chapter. A most enjoyable hour was spent in the banquetting room.

NIAGARA CHAPTER, NO. 55, NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE.—On Dec. 10th I paid my official visit to this, my own Chapter, when the Royal Arch degree was conferred on six candidates, and to say it was done in a very creditable manner falls far short of what should be said were I not a member of this Chapter. Suffice it to say that from First Principal Brown down to the Masters of the Veils the work was perfect. The appointments of the Chapter are correct, the robes and clothing proper, and the musical part perfection. The candidates were particularly bright, and the beautiful ceremony most impressive.

Our old town at this time of year being unusually quiet we were more than pleased to have E. Comp. R. Murray, of Mount Nebo Chapter, and Comp. Sandy Griffin, of Palestine Chapter, St. Thomas, with us.

The banquet which followed was very enjoyable and instructive. We were much pleased to have with us E. Companion Rev. J. C. Garrett, Past Z., who takes a deep interest in the Royal Craft. I will leave to my successor the pleasure of paying the many compliments that may have honestly been paid to this Chapter in his report to Grand Chapter next year.

GRIMSBY CHAPTER, NO. 69, GRIMSBY.—I visited this Chapter December 17th. Unfortunately my train was one hour late, which detained the Companions more than I would have wished, but notwithstanding the delay I was very warmly received. R. E. Companion William Forbes met me at the hotel, escorted me to the Chapter room and introduced me to the Chapter. There was no

work on for the evening, but a very pleasant, and, I trust, profitable time, was spent, both in Chapter and at the banquet, and I have no hesitation in saying that good work and true will be the report from Grimsby Chapter.

MCCALLUM CHAPTER, NO. 29, DUNNVILLE.—On December 18th I visited this Chapter. I was right royally received by E. Companions Amsden and Eccles, was introduced to the Chapter by E. Companion Ramsey, and witnessed the exemplification of the M. M. M. degree, which was well done by these past Z.'s. While the attendance was not up to what I had expected, the quality was par excellence, and I have the assurance that McCallum Chapter will not rest satisfied with their former greatness, but will always maintain the high standard of perfection in their work as in former times.

KING HIRAM CHAPTER, NO. 57, PORT COLBORNE.—On the evening of December 29th I paid my official visit to this Chapter; there was no work. The newly elected officers were installed by E. Companion T. J. O'Neil, Past Z., "assisted by" three Most Excellent Masters from Dublin in a very impressive manner, and from the many kindly things said of the newly installed officers by their Companions, I predict a revival of the Royal Craft in King Hiram Chapter.

WILSON CHAPTER, NO. 64, WELLAND.—On December 30th I paid my official visit to this Chapter, which completed my visits as Superintendent of the district, and although the last, it was not by any manner of means, the least enjoyable. This Chapter has recently moved into new quarters, and has not yet got fully settled. They now have a very comfortable Chapter room with proper furniture, including banners, robes, regalia, etc. There was no work. Two applications were received. I was greatly pleased to find my estimable Companion and friend, Rev. Mr. Johnson, First Principal, Companion Sutherland and Phelps, Second and Third Principals of this Chapter, and it is needless to say that the excellence of the work and the high character of the Chapter will be fully maintained by these officers and their staff. A very pleasant hour was spent in the din-

ing hall of the Mansion House in speech and song, and it was with a feeling of regret that I realized when singing Auld Lang Syne that this was my last official visit to the district.

I am much pleased to report that peace and harmony prevail throughout the district, that the general condition of the Royal Craft is in a healthy and prosperous state, and that my successor will find a vigorous and energetic movement within the portals of every Chapter within the district for a more dignified, correct and intelligent rendition of the beautiful lessons designed to be taught in a Royal Arch Chapter.

In conclusion allow me to thank the many Companions in the different parts of the district for their kind and helpful assistance, not forgetting our Companions across the river at Niagara Falls, N.Y., for their kindness in sending me monthly notices of their Chapter meetings and their great kindness and cordial reception when paying them a fraternal visit.

In thanking the Companions of Niagara district for the great honor of conferring on me the superintendency of the district I do so with a feeling of gratitude not only for myself, but also for Niagara Chapter, No. 55, which, I may say, with pardonable pride, has demonstrated its appreciation by coming to my assistance and making itself second to none in the district.

Respectfully submitted,

J. G. BOTTOMLEY,

General Superintendent, Niagara District, No. 7.

NIAGARA DISTRICT, No. 7.

Number.	Name.	Location.	Regular Meetings.	Emergent.	Average attendance, Members.	Average attendance, Visitors.	As per last Return.	Petitions Accepted.	Initiations and Affiliations.	Restorations.	Withdrawals.	Deaths.	Present Members.	M. M. M. Conferred.	M. E. M. Conferred.	R. A. Conferred.	Annual Dues.	No. Members 12 mos. in Arrears.	Liabilities.	Cash or Securities.	Property.	Dues Outstanding.	Amount of Insurance.	Prospects of Chapter.	Can E. Z. work all Deg's.
19	Mt. Moriah ...	St. Catharines	11 ...	17	2 88	5 4	2 ...	3 91	3	3	\$ 3 00	52 ...	\$500 00	\$240 00	\$600 00	Good	Yes								
29	McCallum....	Dunville ...	7 3 15	.. 42	4 4	.. ..	2 44	4	3	3	1 50	.. ..	15 00	400 00	300 00	Fair	Will						
55	Niagara	Niagara on the Lake.	8 3 14	1 24	7 7	.. ..	1 30	7	7	7	1 50	.. ..	75 00	400 00	200 00	Bright	Yes						
57	King Hiram...	Pt. Colborne..	5 1 14	1 25	2 2	.. ..	1 26	2	2	2	1 50	.. ..	100 00	25 00	.....	Fair	Yes					
64	Willson	Welland	8... 18	1 58	3 3	.. ..	1 .. 60	3	3	3	3 00	15 ..	75 00	100 00	.....	Good	Yes						
69	Grimsby	Grimsby	7 2 14	3 57	4 4	.. ..	1 60	4	4	4	1 50	30 ..	100 00	150 00	81 00	Fair	Yes							
76	Mt. Nebo	Niagara Falls City.	11 5 20	2 67	28 20	.. ..	1 1 85	20 21	3 00	42 ..	264 00	150 00	267 00	.....	.....	Bright	Yes					

TORONTO DISTRICT, NO. 8.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

In accordance with the constitution of Grand Chapter I beg to report for the information of Grand Chapter as follows:—Royal Arch Masonry is in a flourishing condition in the Toronto district. Each of the Chapters is making favorable progress. The regular convocations are well attended. The members of each Chapter appear, almost without exception, in the proper clothing of Royal Arch Masons. The several Scribes E. of the Chapters keep their books accurately and neatly. The financial condition of each Chapter is strong. The property of each Chapter is insured. The officers are intelligent and competent, and are enthusiastic in their work. The membership is increasing. The dues are, as a rule, promptly paid. The fees for exaltation in all the Chapters, except two, are \$15 and over. A new Chapter has been instituted at Uxbridge. The members of all the Chapters are loyal to Grand Chapter and to its officers. In every respect the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in my district may be said to be excellent. No subject of Masonic complaint or irregularity respecting the Chapter or individual Companions has been brought before me for determination. I have not been called upon to grant any dispensations for public festivals or processions in my district. I have visited each Chapter in my district at least once during my year of office, and I have not found any deviation whatsoever from the constitution of the Grand Chapter or the rites and ceremonies authorized by the same.

I have made the following official visits:—

DORIC, No. 60, NEWMARKET, October 7th.

ST. ANDREW'S AND ST. JOHN'S. NO. 4, TORONTO, October 16th.

YORK, No. 62, EGLINTON, November 5th.

ANTIQUITY, No. 91, TORONTO, November 16th.

ORIENT, No. 79, November 26th.

KING SOLOMON'S, No. 8, TORONTO, November 24th.

ST. PAUL'S, No. 65, TORONTO, December 9th.

OCCIDENT, No. 65, TORONTO, December 11th.

I recommended the granting of a petition of eleven Royal Arch Masons in good standing, principally members of Doric Chapter, Newmarket, for a dispensation empowering them to open and hold a regular Chapter at Uxbridge. These Companions had the full consent of their mother Chapter, and also of the nearest Chapter, and the M. E. Grand Z. was graciously pleased to grant the necessary dispensation to the Uxbridge Companions for the opening of a Chapter under the name of Succoth Chapter. The Chapter was opened on the 18th December at Uxbridge by myself, and I had the pleasure of having with me and assisting in the installation of the officers upon that occasion: M. E. Comp. A. Shaw, Grand Z.; R. E. Comp. William Roaf, K.C., acting Grand H.; R. E. Comp. George J. Bennett, Grand Scribe E.; R. E. Comp. P. T. Lee, P.G.R., and E. Comp. Dr. Webb, First Principal of Doric Chapter, Newmarket. After the installation of the officers the Chapter was closed in an excellent manner by the newly installed officers and a lodge of Mark Master Masons opened. The Mark Master Masons' degree was then conferred upon six candidates, and the manner of conferring it met with the greatest commendation from the other Grand officers present and myself. The Chapter has already accepted ten other candidates for advancement. The territory under the jurisdiction of the Chapter is especially favorable. The appointments which have been obtained are excellent. The officers are of excellent character and ability. The Companions are of the right class from which Royal Arch Masons should be drawn, and I think Grand Chapter will make no mistake if it authorizes at the earliest possible date the issue of a warrant to this Chapter.

Upon the occasion of my official visit to St. Andrew's and St. John's Chapter I held a Lodge of Instruction in the M. E. M. degree, according to the work

authorized at the last Convocation of Grand Chapter. The degree was exemplified by the officers of St. Andrew's and St. John's in an excellent manner. Various points in connection with the proper method of exemplifying the degree were raised by a large number of the Companions, and were fully discussed, and the proper method decided upon and accepted by all present. Upon this occasion every Chapter in my district was represented, and I especially noted that a large number of Companions had come from Doric Chapter, Newmarket, for that purpose.

Upon my visit to Doric Chapter, Newmarket, on October 7th, I was accompanied by some thirty-five Companions from Toronto, and each Chapter in the district was also represented upon that occasion. We found the Chapter at Newmarket in a remarkably prosperous condition; its officers well skilled and instructed, and we witnessed a most excellent exemplification of the Royal Arch degree by the officers of that Chapter.

I was particularly impressed upon my visit to York Chapter at Eglinton on November 5th, with the excellent work done by the officers, and with the general prosperity and excellence of this Chapter, under the able management of V. E. Comp. Robertson.

Before arranging any of my visits I called a meeting of the First Principals of all the Chapters, and discussed the requirements of Royal Arch Masonry in the district with them, and it was arranged that each of the Chapters in the district should pay a fraternal visit to each Chapter upon the occasion of my official visit thereto. The dates of the visits were then arranged. Unfortunately I was compelled by the stress of professional duties to default upon the occasions fixed for my visits to King Solomon's Chapter and Occident Chapter. Notwithstanding these defaults I have found that the Companions of the other Chapters have accompanied me upon a great many of my official visits, for which I am very thankful to them.

I have, upon each visit, addressed each Chapter in a spirit of kindly criticism and advice, which I am as-

sured, has been appreciated by the Companions present. I am very thankful for the assistance which has been accorded me by the officers of the various Chapters, and especially by the officers and past officers of Grand Chapter, who have accompanied me, among whom I may mention: R. E. Comp. William Roaf, K.C.; R. E. Comp. George J. Bennett, M. E. Comp. Donald Ross, and R. E. Comp. P. T. Lee. I also had the distinguished honor of the company of the M. E. the Grand Z. on my visit to St. Paul's Chapter on December 9th, where he was royally received.

That part of a Masonic gathering familiarly known as "the fourth degree" has been well looked after by the various Chapters, and I have strongly advised each to promote the brotherly love which should exist among the Companions by a special attention to its enjoyable features.

My district secretary, V. E. Comp. J. W. Seymour Corley, has been assiduous in the discharge of his duties, and has greatly lightened by duties.

The Toronto Chapters work with such a uniform degree of excellence that I feel it would be unduly lengthening this report to especially mention any of the features noticed by me with reference to them. I can say, however, without fear of contradiction, that each of them is worthy of the approval of every officer of Grand Chapter.

Finally, I desire to report that harmony prevails throughout the entire district.

Fraternally submitted,

JAMES BICKNELL,

Grand Superintendent Toronto District, No. 8.

TORONTO DISTRICT, NO. 8.

Number	Name of Chapter.	Location.	Regular Meetings.		Emergent.		Total.		Average attendance, Members.		Average attendance, Visitors.		No. Members Dec., 1902.		Petitions Accepted.		No. Candidates Initiated.		Affiliations.		Restorations.		Withdrawals.		Suspensions.		Deaths.		No. of Members Dec., 1903.		M. M. M. Conferred.		M. E. M. Conferred.		Royal Arch Conferred.		Annual dues per Member.		No. Members 12 mos. in Arrears.		Liabilities of Chapter.		Dues Outstanding		Cash or Securities.		Property.		Assets.		Amount of Insurance.		Prospects of Chapter.		Can Ex. Z., work all Degrees?																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																										
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GEORGIAN DISTRICT, NO. 9.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

I have the honor to submit the following report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in Georgian District, No. 9.

In visiting the Chapters I was very much pleased to notice the enthusiasm displayed by the Companions and their determination to still further raise the standard of the work in the three degrees. The Chapters which comprise the district are: Manitou, No. 27; Signet, No. 34; Georgian, No. 56; Grand River, No. 70; Macpherson, No. 86; St. John's, No. 103, and Amabel, No. 131.

MANITOU, No. 27, COLLINGWOOD.—Was visited on the 11th day of December, 1903, and despite the inclement weather the meeting was well attended, a goodly number being present, with R. E. Companion Aylesworth, the Z. of the Chapter, presiding. The opening and business of the Chapter was performed in a very creditable manner, the books kept in the best of order, proving the correctness and efficiency of the Scribe E. Before closing the Chapter a very pleasing ceremony took place in recognition of the services of the Scribe E. during the last fourteen years, by presenting V. E. Comp. Frank B. Gregory with a past First Principal's jewel in recognition of his services. The presentation was accompanied with a handsomely illuminated address, which spoke of the Companion in feeling terms.

On closing the Chapter a lodge of Mark Master Masons was opened, the degree conferred upon a candidate and the work performed in a satisfactory manner. An adjournment was then made to a spacious refreshment room where the Companions sat down to a very enjoyable repast, spending two or three hours in a sociable manner, and into the small hours of the morning.

SIGNET CHAPTER, NO. 34, BARRIE.—Was visited on

the 10th day of November, 1903. The Companions had not been meeting regularly on account of alterations to the Chapter room. Notwithstanding that fact, and also that one or two of the officers were absent, the work of the Royal Arch degree was conferred upon five candidates by the three Principals and Principal Sojourner in a very creditable manner, fully sustaining the name Signet Chapter has for efficiency.

This Chapter is to be congratulated on having the largest membership in the district, its receipts and securities showing a healthy condition. Also upon the neat and business manner in which the books are kept by R. E. Companion Hallett, the Scribe E. After closing an adjournment was made to the Queen's, where a few hours were spent in a pleasant and profitable manner.

GEORGIAN CHAPTER, No. 56, OWEN SOUND.—Was visited on the 20th day of October, 1903. This Chapter was instituted under the most favorable auspices with the late R. E. Companion Creasor as First Principal, and kept up its prestige for many years. Lack of interest and ambition on the part of many of the Companions made it often a hard matter to get the recognized number present to conduct business. Fortunately a few zealous Masons kept the Chapter struggling along, until now the Companions are having an awakening, due to the recent addition of some of the best workers from the blue lodges. There is no reason why this Chapter, having the second largest membership in the district, should not be one of the best, if not the best, as it contains the material to make it so. A Chapter having no liabilities and a fair bank balance.

The ritualistic work of the degrees is improving rapidly. The Royal Arch degree was conferred in a satisfactory manner, and called for congratulations upon the improvement made.

The election of officers took place on the seventeenth day of November, 1903, when the Chapter was fortunate in the re-election of the First Principal; the Sec-

ond and Third Principals are also a wise selection, and give promise of doing work that cannot be excelled. The feeling expressed by all the Companions leads me to hope that the work may again be done as when the Chapter was first instituted.

The installation ceremony took place on the 15th December, with a goodly number present. The books of the Scribe E. are neat and orderly.

GRAND RIVER CHAPTER, NO. 70, BRACEBRIDGE.—Was visited on the 14th day of October, 1903. Although the date fixed for this meeting was an unfortunate one in consequence of the recent death of their member of Parliament, and the usual excitement attendant upon political meetings in a constituency where political feelings run high, and the evening being equivalent to a Saturday as it was the night before Thanksgiving, yet, although lacking a quorum, a couple of very pleasant hours were spent with the Companions in the Chapter room, when Masonry and allied topics were the principal theme, and evinced the deep interest taken by those present in all matters connected with the Craft. The Scribe E. keeps his books in good order, and states that the monetary condition of the Chapter is good, the general attendance fair, with five accepted applications, and four new ones not yet balloted for.

MACPHERSON CHAPTER, NO. 86, MEAFORD.—Was visited on the 10th day of December, 1903. The lodge room has been recently enlarged and is being otherwise improved, giving more room, and when completed will be quite an improvement and form a modern meeting place with comfortable appointments. The Chapter was opened by the three Principals, the business performed, and the Chapter closed in a satisfactory manner. The books are well kept and in proper order.

A lodge of Mark Master Masons was afterwards opened and the degree conferred with credit to those taking part in it. There is certainly a keener interest in the work, taking place among the Companions of this Chapter, and a strong desire to improve and deserve the appreciation of Grand Chapter. The Companions may

be assured that their interest in Masonry will be keenly appreciated by the Grand Chapter, as well as their neighbors, the older members of Georgian Chapter, who were so closely connected with a Chapter bearing the name of one so well known and already loved, as one of the brightest minds in Masonry.

It is sad to look back to the first convocation of this Chapter and find the names of two Companions who have gone to their rest, viz.: M. E. Companion Henry Macpherson, acting Z. and installing Z., and R. E. Companion John Creasor, acting J. Their lives are too well and favorably known to need further comment.

ST. JOHN'S CHAPTER, NO. 103, NORTH BAY.—Was visited on the 13th day of October, 1903. I was well repaid for the time and inconvenience of getting there. On my arrival I was met by some of the largest hearted Masons our fair country can produce; nothing was left undone by them to make the visit an interesting and pleasant one. The expected visit of M. E. Companion Shaw, Grand Z., was constantly on their minds, and gave them much concern lest circumstances might occur to prevent its fulfilment.

The ceremony of opening took place at the usual hour with all the officers in their chairs. The work performed correctly and with precision. On entering the Chapter room the visitor is struck with its neat and comfortable appearance, which did credit to the Masons of North Bay, and an example to older lodges; at the same time I might mention that each of the Companions, wearing the proper clothing of the Chapter, gave a finishing touch to the whole.

In the course of the evening the M. E. the Grand Z. was introduced, the manner of their reception showing their appreciation of a visit from the highest officer in the Chapter. A lodge of Mark Master Masons was subsequently opened, the work done in a manner quite unlooked for. Before closing the lodge an instructive and highly interesting address was delivered by the Grand Z., expressing pleasure at his reception, the in-

terest taken by the Companions in the rendition of the work and the great pleasure it gave him to be present with them. On closing an adjournment was made to the dining hall at the station and there concluded a very happy evening.

AMABEL CHAPTER, NO. 131, WIARTON.—Was first visited on the 12th day of March, 1903, at the request of the Grand Scribe E., for the purpose of presenting the Companions with their warrant. During the evening the M. E. M. degree was conferred.

An official visit was paid to this Chapter on the 3rd day of December, 1903, when the Companions were permitted by dispensation to have the officers of the Chapter elected and installed on the same evening. The result of the election was a happy selection of Companions well suited for the work, who were installed directly after their election.

This Chapter, composed principally of young men, who have all the ambition necessary for perfecting the work, and who have shown themselves so on every opportunity I had of being present. From the character of the work done by their past and present officers I bespeak for them a prosperous future.

In concluding this report of my term of office I desire to express to the Companions of the district my high appreciation of the honor conferred upon me at the last Convocation of Grand Chapter, and also for the many courtesies and kindnesses received from the Companions during the year. I found on my travels that some Chapters require more friendly visitations, and an assurance of credit for what is well done, and, I only express opinions gathered, when making this statement.

In two Chapters in the district I was struck with the effect produced by all the Companions wearing the regalia prescribed by the constitution of Grand Chapter. It added much to the dignity of the working and evinced the respect in which the edicts of Grand Chapter are held.

I desire also to express my thanks to M. E. Companion Shaw, Grand Z. of the Grand Chapter of Canada, and the R. E., the Grand Scribe E., for the many kindnesses received during the year.

Finally, I may state that I visited all the Chapters in the district, and have pleasure in stating that peace and harmony prevail therein. No difference of opinion requiring legislation has taken place, and I have been spared the necessity of performing a duty frequently of an unpleasant nature. I bespeak for my successor in office a hearty welcome.

Fraternally submitted,

ALLAN CAMERON,

Grand Superintendent, Georgian District, No. 9.

GEORGIAN DISTRICT NO. 9.

Number.	Name.	Location.	Regular Meetings.	Emergency.	Total.	Average attendance, Members.	Average attendance, Visitors.	As per last Return.	Petitions Accepted.	Initiations.	Affiliations.	Restorations.	Withdrawals.	Suspensions.	Deaths.	Present Number.	M. M. M. Conferred.	M. F. M. Conferred.	R. A. Conferred.	Annual Dues.	No. 12 Months in Arrears.	Liabilities of Chapter.	Assets.	Cash or Securities	Property.	Dues Outstanding.	Insurance.	Prospects of Chapter.	Can Z. work all Degrees?	
27	Manitou	Collingwood	10	2	12	16	..	79	7	7	..	..	..	..	1	66	7	7	10	\$1 50	8	.....	\$273 55	\$ 20 52	\$150 00	\$103 03	\$150 00	Good	Yes	Yes
34	Signet	Barrie	10	1	11	23	1	111	121	30	1	..	1	..	..	151	30	29	29	1 00	25	\$60 00	950 00	550 00	400 00	237 00	300 00	Very good	Yes	Yes
56	Georgian	Owen Sound	10	5	15	15	1	69	..	11	..	..	..	..	..	80	11	13	11	1 20	34	.....	500 00	229 33	.....	200 00	200 00	Excellent	Yes	Yes
70	Grand River..	Bracebridge ..	8	..	8	11	3	44	14	12	..	1	3	..	1	51	12	12	13	2 00	..	.....	.....	.....	225 00	.....	150 00	Very good	Yes	Yes
85	Macpherson ..	Meaford	10	2	12	15	1	33	8	7	..	..	..	..	..	40	7	6	6	2 00	..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	320 00	Good	Yes	Yes
103	St. John's....	North Bay	12	5	17	15	4	45	23	21	1	1	..	..	..	68	21	24	25	2 00	..	.....	300 00	150 00	.....	127 00	200 00	Excellent	Yes	Yes
131	Amabel	Warton	10	1	11	13	..	24	5	5	..	..	1	..	..	28	5	5	6	2 00	..	35 00	140 00	.....	.....	42 00	125 00	Good	Yes	Yes

ONTARIO DISTRICT, NO. 10.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

I have the honor to present my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in Ontario District, No. 10, for the year 1903.

One Chapter has been added to this district, namely, King Darius Chapter, at Cannington, with every mark of a successful career, while harmony and prosperity prevail elsewhere throughout the district.

VICTORIA CHAPTER, NO. 37, PORT HOPE.—Accompanied by the M. E., the Grand Z., Companion A. Shaw, R. E. Comp. W. Roaf, Grand J., and R. E. Comp. C. W. Postlethwaite, I paid my official visit to this, my own Chapter. The R. A. degree was exemplified, E. Comp. Noble, E. Comp. Burton, as P. S., doing especially good work. The rest of the staff know their parts and work the degrees effectively. The books are neatly and correctly kept. Twelve new members were initiated. This Chapter is progressive and stands No. 1 in the district for correctly working the degrees. Its prospects are more favorable for the coming year.

EXCELSIOR CHAPTER, NO. 45, COLBORNE.—In company with the M. E. the Grand Z. I visited this Chapter on June 2nd. The Mark Master's degree was conferred, the work of the S. Deacon being deserving of especial mention. The degree was creditably exemplified, the officers showing a disposition to get up their parts correctly. There were eight initiations during the year, and the Chapter is progressing satisfactorily; the books are well kept. This Chapter ranks third in order of merit for exemplifying the work.

MIDLAND CHAPTER, NO. 94, LINDSAY.—I again had the pleasure of being accompanied by the M. E. the Grand Z. when I visited this Chapter, M. E. Comp. Harding was also present. The R. A. degree was fairly well exemplified, the Principals doing good work. There

have been eighteen initiations, including the contingent to form the Cannington Chapter, so that the staff of officers must be well up in their work by this time. The S. E. Comp. G. S. Patrick is a very obliging and valuable officer. This Chapter is in a flourishing condition, and ranks fourth for quality of work in exemplifying degrees.

KEYSTONE CHAPTER, No. 35, WHITBY.—I paid my official visit to this Chapter on the 12th of June. The Most Excellent Master's degree was conferred on several candidates. Owing to the absence of some of the principal officers I was unable to form a correct opinion of the work of the present staff. Four new candidates were admitted and four members withdrew, which leaves the membership same as last year. The work in this Chapter will rank about fifth in comparison with that of the other Chapters in Ontario district.

CORINTHIAN CHAPTER, No. 36, PETERBORO.—I visited this Chapter on June 26th. The work in the R. A. degree was very well rendered. The presiding officers are well up in their respective parts, the subordinate officers also doing their share to keep up the good reputation of their Chapter. This Chapter is progressive. The books are well kept, and the Companions are to be congratulated on their spacious and comfortable apartments. This Chapter stands second in rank for correctness and efficiency in rendering the work of the degrees.

PENTALPHA CHAPTER, No. 28, OSHAWA.—I paid my official visit to this Chapter on June 30th. The Mark Master's degree was conferred. The officers having been installed but a short time previously were not prepared to do good work. Judging from the appearance of their new quarters it is evident that the spirit of Masonry is wideawake and stirring in the Companions of Pentalpha Chapter, and there is no doubt but that a marked improvement will be reported by my successor. The work stands seventh in order of merit.

ST. JOHN'S CHAPTER, No. 46, COBOURG.—I visited this Chapter officially on the 4th of December. The

exemplifying of the R. A. degree was done by past officers. Unfortunately for this Chapter the E. Z. and E. Comp. J. were called away shortly after being installed and the meetings were allowed to go by default until the end of the year. The elected officers for the coming year, the E. Z., Companion Odell; Past Z. Hoey as H., R. E. Comp. R. J. Craig as J., and P. Z. Hewson as P. S., have assumed the responsibility and are determined to bring St. John's Chapter to the front rank in Capitular Masonry. The books are well kept and the Chapter is holding its own. At present the work classes about sixth.

WARKWORTH CHAPTER, No. 110, WARKWORTH.—I made several efforts to visit this Chapter in the early part of the season, but as there was no work to exemplify, I postponed my visit, intending to journey there later, but unfortunately when a meeting was called for September, I was unable to attend. Being personally acquainted with some of the principal officers I can safely say that the Chapter is in good hands and will succeed. Nine candidates were initiated, which shows good progress. The present membership is forty-eight.

KING DARIUS CHAPTER, U. D., CANNINGTON.—The officers of this new Chapter were installed by the M. E. the Grand Z. on 7th October. Since then there have been four initiations and one affiliation, making a total membership of fifteen. The S. E. reports the prospects of this Chapter as good.

In conclusion I must thank the M. E. the Grand Z. for his kind support in accompanying me on my first three official visits. Also those of the Scribes E. who so regularly sent me the notices of their meetings, and the Companions generally for their kindly treatment on every occasion while paying my official visits throughout the district.

Fraternally submitted,

R. C. SMITH,

Grand Superintendent, Ontario District, No. 10.

OTTAWA DISTRICT, No. 13.

Number	Name.	Location.	Regular Meetings.	Emergency.	Total.	Average attendance, Members.	Average attendance, Visitors.	No. Members Dec., 1902.	Petitions Accepted.	No. Candidates Initiated.	Affiliations.	Restorations.	Withdrawals.	Suspensions.	Deaths.	No. of Members Dec., 1903.	M. M. M. Conferred.	M. E. M. Conferred.	Royal Arch Conferred.	Total.	Annual dues per Member.	No. Members 12 mos. in Arrears.	Liabilities of Chapter.	Dues Outstanding	Cash or Securities.	Property.	Assets.	Amount of Insurance.	Prospects of Chapter.	Can Ex. Z., work all Degrees?
16	Carleton....	Ottawa	9	3	12 17	3 8	1 36	3 8	11 11	11	3	1	2	...	1	93	11	10	10	31	\$3 00	19	...	\$121 85	\$68 25	\$650 00	\$121 85	\$150 00	Good	Yes
58	Pembroke ...	Mattawa	4	1	5 8	1 36	3 2	38	2 2	2 6	1 80	2 40	29	30	147 90	93 60	319 25	360 81	250 00	Good	Yes									
61	Granite	Almonte.....	8	4	12 12	2 49	6 6	54	6 5	5 16	1 00	2	...	3 00	62 00	...	200 00	150 00	Good	Yes										
114	Bonnechere ..	Renfrew.....	11	2	13 15	62	6 6	68	6 2	5 13	2 60	8	...	114 01	274 37	400 00	674 37	150 00	Good	Yes										
116	Maple.....	Carleton Place	9	2	11 12	3 51	10 10	56	10 11	10 31	2 00	21	...	53 01	377 27	...	200 00	100 00	Good	Yes										

PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT, NO. 11.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

I herewith submit my report of the condition of Capitular Masonry in this district for the year 1903.

At the last annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Canada, held at Toronto, my Companions honored me by electing me to the office of Grand Superintendent of the Prince Edward District, No. 11, and I was regularly installed at the same Convocation.

MOIRA CHAPTER, NO. 7, BELLEVILLE.—I visited this Chapter on the evening of November 3rd, and found a fairly good attendance of the members. The Royal Arch degree was conferred by E. Companion Rev. D. F. Bogart, assisted by an efficient staff of officers in a very creditable manner. The books are well kept and the dues well looked after by E. Comp. Wm. McKeown, the Scribe E.

PRINCE EDWARD CHAPTER, NO. 31, PICTON.—It was on the evening of November 9th that I visited this Chapter, and was accompanied by twelve of the members of Mount Sinai Chapter, No. 44, Napanee, among them being R. E. Comp. James Walters, P.G.S. of the district; V. E. Comp. W. F. Gerow, and E. Comp. Wm. Rankin, the Z. of Mount Sinai Chapter. The M. E. the Grand Z. was present, and a very large attendance of the members of Prince Edward Chapter. In the absence of the First Principal, E. Comp. G. W. Morden, the I.P.Z., V. E. Comp. R. A. Williamson acted as Z., and conferred the Royal Arch degree upon several candidates in a creditable manner, assisted by an efficient staff of officers.

ST. MARK'S CHAPTER, NO. 26, TRENTON.—This Chapter I visited on the evening of November 10th, and found a fair attendance. It is certainly gratifying to see the progress this Chapter is making, and reflects credit upon R. E. Comp. J. H. Colden, the P.G.S., and E. Comp.

R. H. Spencer and his officers for their patience and assiduity in the good work. As there was no candidate in waiting the M. M. M. degree was exemplified in a highly creditable manner by E. Comp. Spencer and his officers.

MOUNT SINAI CHAPTER, No. 44, NAPANEE.—Though I am Scribe E. of this Chapter and attend every Convocation my Companions asked me to make an official visit, which I did on the evening of December 9th, and I am pleased to say that Mount Sinai Chapter is progressing favorably, both as regards numbers and finances, and that the prosperity is largely due to the efforts of R. E. Comp. James Walters, V. E. Comp. W. F. Gerow and some other Companions.

KEYSTONE CHAPTER, No. 72, STIRLING.—I visited this Chapter on the evening of December 16th, a very cold night. R. E. Comp. W. S. R. Murch, P.G.S. of St. Lawrence district, was present. In consequence of the weather there was not a large attendance of members as a great many live at a distance of from ten to sixteen miles from the town. The officers for the ensuing year were elected, and there being no candidates in attendance the M. M. M. degree was exemplified by E. Comp. H. H. Alger and his officers. The books are kept in a first-class manner and the dues looked well after by the Scribe E., R. E. Comp. J. Earl Halliwell, P.G.S. of the district.

In conclusion, though one Chapter has not increased the number of its members and another has decreased, yet it is gratifying that the district, as a whole, has made an increase, and that all the Chapters are in a good financial position.

I wish to thank the officers and members of the Chapters of the district for honoring me, and for their cordial reception at my visits to the Chapters.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

J. G. FENNELL,

Grand Superintendent, Prince Edward District, No. 11.

PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT, NO. 11.

Number.		Name.	Place.
7	Moir		Belleville
26	St. Marks		Trenton
31	Prince Edward		Piton
44	Mount Sinai		Napanea
72	Keystone		Stirling
		Regular Meeting.	
		Emergent.	
		Total.	
		Average attendance, Members.	
		Average attendance, Visitors.	
		Total.	
		No. Members Dec. 31, 1902.	
		Petitions Accepted.	
		No. Candidates Initiated.	
		Affiliations.	
		Restorations.	
		Withdrawals.	
		Suspensions.	
		Deaths.	
		No. Members Dec. 31, 1903.	
		M. M. M. Conferred.	
		M. E. M. Conferred.	
		Royal Arch Conferred.	
		Annual dues per Member.	
		No. of Members in Arrears.	
		Outstanding Dues.	
		Assets.	
		Cash or Securities.	
		Liabilities.	
		Property.	
		Insurance.	
		Prospects of Chapter.	
		Can Ex. Z., work all degrees?	

ST. LAWRENCE DISTRICT, NO. 12.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

As Grand Superintendent for St. Lawrence District, No. 12, I beg to submit to you my report on the general condition of the said district. As you are aware, this district is composed of eight Chapters, namely: Ancient Frontenac and Cataraqui, No. 1, Kingston; Grenville, No. 22, Prescott; Sussex, No. 59, Brockville; Maitland, No. 68, North Augusta; St. Lawrence, No. 100, Brockville; St. John's, No. 112, Morrisburg; Covenant, No. 113, Cornwall; Leeds, No. 132, Gananoque.

GRENVILLE CHAPTER, NO. 22, PRESCOTT.—My first official visit was to the historic town of Prescott, accompanied by a number of my Companions from Brockville, on September 8th. Grenville Chapter was under the guidance of E. Comp. Logan who, as acting Z., opened and closed the Chapter very acceptably in the Royal Arch. Afterwards R. E. Comp. Graham presided at the working of the Mark Master and Most Excellent degrees, and everything was done in a finished manner by himself and his officers.

LEEDS CHAPTER, NO. 132, GANANOQUE.—On Sept. 23rd, in company with the Grand Z. and Companions Dillon and Gilham, of Brockville, I visited the junior Chapter of the district, namely, Leeds, No. 132, Gananoque, and I must say that under that most efficient officer, E. Companion Skinner, this Chapter put on the Mark Master degree in a manner that would make many of the older Chapters envious of them. Capitular Masonry has certainly received a strong hold in this town, and no doubt ere many years have passed will be one of the largest and best Chapters of the district. At the conclusion of the work all repaired to the banquet hall where a few hours were very pleasantly spent in speechifying. I shall long remember this meeting for its many pleasant features.

COVENANT CHAPTER, NO. 113, CORNWALL.—On October 21st I visited Cornwall, and found this one of the best officered and conducted Chapters in the district, and I must here congratulate the Scribe E. in having all the dues collected to date. It would be well if all the Scribes E. in the district were as zealous in their duties as Comp. Bisset. The Chapter worked the Royal Arch in a finished manner.

ST. JOHN'S CHAPTER, NO. 112, MORRISBURG.—On November 10th I visited St. John's, No. 112, where I was received and entertained most royally. E. Comps. Bradfield and his officers worked the Mark Master Mason degree very nicely, and showed themselves to be efficient officers. This Chapter has a large number of country members, and they delight in attending the convocations and assisting in the good work.

ANCIENT FRONTENAC AND CATARAQUI CHAPTER, NO. 1, KINGSTON.—On November 20th I journeyed to Kingston, accompanied by a number of Companions from Brockville. Ancient Frontenac and Cataraqui, No. 1, under the superintendency of E. Comp. Minnes, worked the Royal Arch degree in their usual fine manner. His officers had their work up in good shape, and the meeting was very largely attended, which was a source of great gratification to the M. E. the Grand Z., who is a member of this Chapter and who was visiting officially with me. I must not neglect, before closing, to thank R. E. Companions Murch and Wilkinson for their many kindnesses on this occasion, having met me at the station and showed me all the points of interest in the city.

MAITLAND CHAPTER, NO. 86, NORTH AUGUSTA.—December 29th, accompanied by a large number of my Companions from Brockville, I drove to North Augusta to visit Maitland Chapter. This Chapter being a rural one the members all have to drive a considerable distance, but notwithstanding the bitter cold a large number turned out to do me honor. E. Comp. Love and his officers showed that they were capable and hard workers. After the meeting an adjournment was made to the dining room where a sumptuous repast was in waiting,

and after spending an enjoyable evening all drove home agreeing that the Companions of Maitland Chapter were good Royal Arch Masons and a jolly lot of good fellows.

SUSSEX AND ST. LAWRENCE CHAPTERS, BROCKVILLE.
—On January 7th I made my last visit, accompanied by the M. E. the Grand Z. to a joint meeting of Sussex and St. Lawrence Chapters. It would be folly on my part to discuss the work as put on by these Chapters, both of which are very ably looked after. The Royal Arch degree was worked jointly by E. Companions Kyle and Gale, two worthy and well skilled Companions.

At the conclusion of the meeting we adjourned to the banquet hall, where a few hours were spent in speech and song.

In conclusion I am glad to say everything tending to the good of Masonry is being done in this district, and that in my own town no less than twenty-five members were exalted in the past year.

Fraternally submitted,

W. H. MOWAT,

Grand Superintendent St. Lawrence District, No. 12.

ST. LAWRENCE DISTRICT, No. 12.

Number.	Name.	Location.	Regular Meetings.	Emergent.	Total.	Average attendance, Members.	Average attendance, Visitors.	Total.	As per last Return.	Petitions Accepted.	Initiations.	Affiliations.	Restorations.	Withdrawals.	Suspensions	Deaths.	Present Number.	M. M. M. Conferred.	M. E. M. Conferred.	R. A. Conferred.	Annual Dues.	No. 12 Months in Arrears.	Liabilities of Chapter.	Assets.	Cash or Securities	Property.	Dues Outstanding.	Insurance.	Prospects of Chapter.	Can Z. work all Degrees?
1	Ancient Front- enacand Cat- araqui.....	Kingston	10	1	11	15	1	16	70	5	3	...	4	1	1	1	68	3	2	3	\$3 00	6	.....	\$390 00	\$ 40 00	\$350 00	\$74 50	\$200 00	Good	Yes
22	Grenville.....	Prescott	8	1	9	10	1	11	53	9	6	1	1	...	...	...	61	6	5	4	2 00	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	30 00	.....	Good	Yes
59	Sussex	Brockville ...	9	2	11	15	4	19	85	8	11	...	2	9	...	...	85	11	9	9	1 00	11	.....	455 35	143 00	150 00	162 35	.....	Good	Yes
68	Maitland ..	North Augusta	1	3	4	10	9	19	26	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25	...	...	...	1 00	6	.....	150 00	50 00	100 00	25 00	.....	Good	Yes
100	St. Lawrence.	Brockville	10	3	13	14	5	19	52	14	11	1	4	5	1	...	58	13	11	9	2 00	29	.....	432 92	156 00	150 00	126 92	.....	Very Good	Yes
112	St. John's	Morrisburg ..	8	1	9	12	...	12	43	6	4	...	...	...	...	...	45	4	2	2	2 00	15	.....	400 00	.....	400 00	30 00	400 00	Good	Yes
113	Covenant	Cornwall	10	...	10	15	3	18	72	1	1	...	1	1	...	...	71	1	1	1	1 50	4	.....	350 00	150 00	200 00	11 00	150 00	Good	Yes
132	Leeds	Mananogue ..	9	1	10	17	1	18	26	28	17	...	1	...	...	...	42	17	13	13	2 00	...	.....	359 39	48 59	300 00	18 50	100 00	Excellent	Yes

OTTAWA DISTRICT, NO. 13.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

Having been elected Grand Superintendent of the Ottawa district I was installed by R. E. Companion Dr. N. W. Cleary at the February meeting of Bonnechere Chapter. Capitular Masonry in this district is in a very flourishing condition. All Chapters report an increase in membership and also the collection of dues is in a very fair shape.

ST. FRANCIS CHAPTER, U. D., SMITH'S FALLS.—One new Chapter has been instituted, viz., St. Francis, at Smith's Falls, August 21st, 1903, at which ceremony I was present assisting the M. E. the Grand Z., R. E. Comps. W. B. McArthur and McIntosh, P.G.S., of Carleton Place, also taking part. Judging by the interest shown by the officers and Companions this Chapter will be a decided acquisition to our district.

CARLETON CHAPTER, NO. 16, OTTAWA.—Was visited November 26th, at which a reunion of the Companions of this district was held. The M. E. the Grand Z. was present. The degrees M. M. M., M. E. M. and the R. A. were conferred on some eleven candidates, the work in the several degrees being very well exemplified. The work done in the Royal Arch degree deserves special notice, particularly that of the E. First Principal, R. E. Comp. S. A. Luke and Companion John Wilson, P.S.

PEMBROKE CHAPTER, NO. 58, MATTAWA.—Was visited December 8th. I installed their officers for the ensuing year. The outlook for this Chapter seems to be brighter, although one of their old standbys has left the town, viz., E. Comp. Grasswell.

GRANITE CHAPTER, NO. 61, ALMONTE.—Was visited December 22nd. There was a very good attendance. This was the night of their election of officers. After the business was over the M. M. degree was conferred in a very creditable manner by E. Comp. W. C. Pollock and

his staff of officers. The books are well kept by Comp. Hill, who makes a very efficient Scribe E., the outstanding dues of this Chapter being the lowest in the district, which speaks well for his zeal.

MAPLE CHAPTER, No. 116, CARLETON PLACE.—Was visited January 5th, when the M. E. the Grand Z. was present. I was asked to instal the officers, which I did with the assistance of the Grand Z. and R. E. Comp. W. B. McArthur, R. E. Comp. McIntosh, E. Comp. Dr. Gorrell and E. Comp. Martyn, First Principal of St. Francis Chapter, Smith's Falls. Comp. Edwards is a very neat and painstaking Scribe E. I am sure that E. Comp. John McLaren with the staff of officers will keep up the standard of work set by his predecessors.

BONNECHERE CHAPTER, No. 114, RENFREW.—Being my mother Chapter I did not visit this officially, as I was present at most of the meetings, and always found the work and business done in a very satisfactory manner, E. Comp. G. W. McDonald being surrounded with a very able staff of officers. The work done by the P. S., H. Cox, was exceptionally well done. The S. E., Companion D. S. Stewart, is also a very capable officer, the books being kept in a very efficient manner. This Chapter also gave an "At Home" November 27, at which a very enjoyable time was spent.

In conclusion I desire to thank the Companions of Ottawa district very sincerely for the honor conferred on me at the last Convocation of Grand Chapter, and also to the various Chapters for their many courtesies and kindnesses to me during my term of office, and I sincerely trust that the good fellowship existing at the present time throughout the district may continue for evermore.

Fraternally submitted,

W. H. MACKAY,

Grand Superintendent Ottawa District, No. 13.

ONTARIO DISTRICT, No. 10.

Number.	Name.	Location.	Regular Meetings.	Emergency.	Total.	Average attendance, Members.	Average attendance, Visitors.	As per last Return.	Petitions Accepted.	Initiations.	Affiliations.	Restorations.	Withdrawals.	Suspensions.	Deaths.	Present Members.	M. M. M. Conferred.	M. E. M. Conferred.	R. A. Conferred.	Annual Dues.	No. Members 12 mos. in Arrear.	Liabilities.	Dues Outstanding.	Cash or Securities.	Property.	Amount of Insurance.	Prospects of Chapter.	Can E. Z. work all Deg's.	
28	Pentalpha	Oshawa	10	11	11 17	1 53	10 10	10	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	61	10 12 11	12 11	11	\$1 50	16	.....	\$88 00	.....	\$400 00	\$200 00	Good	Yes	
35	Keystone	Whitby	8	1	9 10	75	51	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	71	4 7 7	7	7	1 00	.....	\$50 00	25 00	300 00	200 00	Fair	Yes		
36	Corinthian	Peterboro	9	2	11 20	173	12 6	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	78	6 6 7	6 7	7	3 00	.....	.....	93 00	.....	.....	.....	Good	Yes	
37	Victoria	Port Hope	10	3	13 18	1 60	18 12	1	1	1	1	1	6	2	2	65	12 12 12	12 12	12	2 00	12	.....	41 68	261 45	150 00	\$300 00	Very good	Yes	
45	Excelsior	Colborne	11	1	11 20	271	8 8	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	77	8 8 8	8	8	1 00	40	.....	45 00	.....	.....	300 00	Good	Yes	
48	St. John's	Cobourg	8	8	8 15	245	1 1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	46	1 1 1	1 1	1	25 10	.....	.....	.....	.....	100 00	300 00	Fair	Yes	
94	Midland	Lindsay	8	3	11 16	1 54	25 23	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	77	23 22 22	22	22	1 00	4	31 04	20 50	144 15	250 00	150 00	Very good	Yes	
110	Warkworth	Warkworth	.....	.....	.....	40	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
..	King Darius	Cannington	2	1	3 9	5	9	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15	4 4 4	4	4	2 00	.....	1 50	.....	.....	200 00	200 00	Good	Yes	

Corinthian Chapter carries ample insurance jointly with other Masonic bodies.

ALGOMA DISTRICT, No. 14.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

I have the honor as Grand Superintendent of Algoma district to submit to you my report on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in New Ontario during the year 1903. Permit me to state for the information of those Companions who are not acquainted with this large district that, although some parts of it are still without settlers, we have several very progressive and up-to-date towns, such as Sault Ste. Marie, Port Arthur, Fort William, Sudbury, Rat Portage, Fort Francis and Rainy River. Though of such vast extent my jurisdiction contains only four Chapters—Shuniah, No. 82, in Port Arthur; Golden, No. 90, at Rat Portage; Tuscan, No. 95, at Sudbury, and Algonquin, No. 102 at Sault Ste. Marie, which, however, may justly claim to have enrolled among their members many of the best skilled and progressive Masons in America.

Shortly after my election I was duly installed as Grand Superintendent by R. E. Companion S. W. Ray, of Shuniah Chapter in Port Arthur, and now wish to report on the Chapters as follows:

SHUNIAH CHAPTER, NO. 82, PORT ARTHUR.—This Chapter has been very highly honored during the year by visits from the Grand Chapter officers. M. E. Companion A. Shaw, Grand Z., held a Chapter of Instruction in our Chapter room on the evening of Oct. 15th, and we were delighted to receive him with all the honor due to his exalted position, and his genuine merits as a man, and to listen to his able instruction and excellent advice. R. E. Comp. S. W. Ray, who was also present, did much to make the meeting a very successful one.

On the evening of Sept. 3rd we were honored with a visit from R. E. Comp. William Roaf, the Grand J., and it is needless for me to say that he was right royally welcomed, as he most assuredly deserves to be. Another very distinguished visitor, R. E. Comp. Aubrey White,

paid us a visit at our regular convocation Aug. 21st. All who know R. E. Companion White must understand what a treat it was for the Companions to hear him deliver one of his able addresses. May such highly distinguished Companions visit us often; such visits do an inestimable amount of good to any Chapter.

As I have attended every convocation of Shuniah Chapter during the last seven years, I can speak most emphatically concerning the excellent condition of the Royal Craft in Port Arthur. We have for our officers some of the best men in the twin towns of Port Arthur and Fort William, and not one weak or inefficient man among them. E. Comp. McKibbon, who has been re-elected First Principal for 1904, is a first-class officer. I have seen him confer many degrees, and have no hesitation in saying he richly deserves the honor of being First Principal of any Chapter. To R. E. Comp. Ray, who is very regular in attendance at our meetings, is very largely due the credit of making Shuniah Chapter what it is. This Chapter is doing excellent work; no doubt it will prosper in the future as in the past.

GOLDEN CHAPTER, No. 90, RAT PORTAGE.—I made my official visit to this Chapter on August 13th. There was a good attendance of members, and I was very kindly received and warmly welcomed, but I exceedingly regret to have to report that the First Principal and his officers, although present and having a candidate waiting, were not prepared to confer the degree. I offered to take any part of the work for them, but still they were not willing to proceed. I inferred from this that they did not wish to have their work subjected to criticism. It must have been an "off night" with the First Principal. This Chapter has depended too much upon outside help. There are two blue lodges in Rat Portage, one in Keewatin, one at Fort Francis, and one in the town of Rainy River, all tributary to Golden Chapter, which is 300 miles from Shuniah Chapter. With so many good lodges "to draw from," I fail to see why Golden Chapter should not do better work than it does. I sincerely trust that my successor will find Golden Chapter in a vastly better condition than that in which I found it.

TUSCAN CHAPTER, NO. 95, SUDBURY.—A visit to Tuscan Chapter would have necessitated for me a journey of 1,100 miles, and as the M. E. the Grand Z. himself paid Tuscan Chapter an official visit on October 14th I did not deem it necessary as his representative to make another. However, I have every reason to believe that Tuscan officers are both capable and diligent in the performance of their duties.

ALGONQUIN CHAPTER, NO. 102, SAULT STE. MARIE.—This Chapter is in a most prosperous condition. I paid my official visit to Algonquin Chapter on July 22nd, and was most enthusiastically received by the Companions. E. Comp. J. T. Cameron and his officers conferred the M. E. M. degree (restored form) and the Royal Arch degree on three candidates. The work was done to my entire satisfaction. The room was well filled. R. E. Comp. Hearst and E. Comp. Roberts, two very enthusiastic members, who seem to take great interest in the Chapter, were present, and during the banquet which followed took a very prominent part in the entertainment of myself and other visitors. A very pleasing incident of the evening was the presentation of a beautiful Past Z.'s jewel to E. Comp. C. W. McCrea, I.P.Z. I was asked to make the presentation in the name of Algonquin Chapter, and I am sure from the remarks made by the officers and Companions that E. Comp. McCrea has filled the office of Z. in the most creditable manner. I wish to express my gratitude to the Companions of Sault Ste. Marie, and especially to E. Comp. R. G. Campbell, for all they did to make me feel at home during my visit. No one could have been used better than I was by the Companions of Algonquin Chapter.

With so many able and well skilled Companions in our Chapters, we should never elect as Principal one who is so very indifferent or incapable as not to be able to prepare himself faithfully to fill his office, nor one who is ever seen under the influence of liquor. Our Chapters are estimated by our brethren in the symbolic degrees by the lives we lead, and by our enthusiasm for the Royal Craft, and our progress depends very largely upon our choice of officers. Then again, to make our

Chapters what they ought to be, we should ever be prompt and regular in our attendance; we should open punctually, transact our business with despatch, practise our "rites and mysteries" for the instruction of our younger Companions, enjoy social intercourse as gentlemen, and close our Chapters in good time. We should make our meetings such that we would never hear the opprobrious excuse for absence, "There was an entertainment at the opera house," or "there was a card party at the residence of Mrs. So-and-So."

In conclusion, I may state that in every case the books of the Chapter have been well kept, and with the exception of Golden Chapter, the notices of convocations have been regularly sent to me. I desire to thank the Companions of the district for the honor they conferred on me in electing me to fill the important office of Grand Superintendent for the year 1903.

Fraternally submitted,

J. W. MORGAN,

Grand Superintendent, Algoma District, No. 14.

ALGOMA DISTRICT, NO. 14.

Number.	Name.	Place.	Regular Meetings.	Emergent.	Total.	Average attendance, Members.	Average attendance, Visitors.	No. Members Dec. 31, 1902.	Petitions Accepted.	No. Candidates Initiated.	Affiliations.	Restorations.	Withdrawals.	Suspensions.	Deaths.	No. Members Dec. 31, 1903.	M. M. M. Conferred.	M. E. M. Conferred.	Royal Arch Conferred.	Annual dues per Member.	No. of Members in Arrears.	Outstanding Dues.	Assets.	Cash or Securities.	Liabilities.	Property.	Insurance.	Prospects of Chapter.	Can Ex. Z., work all degrees?
12 Shuniah	Port Arthur	9 5 14 14 1	59 20 9 1	1	68 9 9 6	\$1 20 43	\$197 55	\$786 01	\$388 46	\$200 00	Excellent	Yes																	
95 Tuscan	Sudbury	6 3 6 11 1	45 5 2 2	2 6	280 00	180 00	100 00	100 00	100 00	100 00	Splendid	Yes																	
102 Algonquin	Sault St. Marie	12 14 26 16 1	91 28 22 2	1	112 22 24 26	2 00 47	175 00	155 00	750 00	800 00	Splendid	Yes																	
99 Golden	Rat Portage	7 14 21 9 4	32 14 11	4	43 11 16 16	3 00	150 00	100 00	100 00	100 00	Good	Yes																	

MANITOBA DISTRICT, No. 15.

*To the M. Ex. Z., Principals, Officers and Companions
of the Grand Chapter of Canada:*

I herewith submit my report on Capitular Masonry in District No. 15, which comprises the following Chapters: Prince Rupert, No. 52, Winnipeg; Corinthian, No. 101, Boissevain; Zeredatha, No. 111, Morden.

PRINCE RUPERT CHAPTER, No. 52, WINNIPEG.—Being a resident in Winnipeg, I attended every meeting of Prince Rupert Chapter, when the work has been exemplified in a masterly manner by all the officers, on a class of candidates of superior intelligence. The future of the Chapter is in good hands. Their aim is to be largest and best, if possible, on the Grand register.

CORINTHIAN CHAPTER, No. 101, BOISSEVAIN.—I was unable to visit Corinthian Chapter, but have kept in close touch with the Companions, several of whom I have met when here on business, who report things in a healthy condition, and considering the limited field they have to draw from, I consider their standing excellent.

ZEREDATHA CHAPTER, No. 111, MORDEN.—Zeredatha Chapter, No. 111, is dead, beyond recall. I have endeavored to infuse new life into it, but found that the members are indifferent. I am, therefore, taking proceedings under the Constitution to have the warrant surrendered to Grand Chapter.

I had much pleasure in recommending that a dispensation be granted to several Companions in the town of Neepawa to form a new Chapter. The same being granted, I had hopes of their being ready for me to install their new officers, but owing to the delay in completing the new Masonic Hall there, and also that the

furniture ordered and nearly completed was burned in a factory fire in the east, that honor will devolve on my successor. but I have promised them to be there with a good working team to exemplify all the degrees. I consider their prospects good, for they are an enthusiastic lot of Companions, and have an excellent field to work on.

Fraternally submitted,

ROBT. MAGNESS,

Grand Superintendent, Manitoba District, No. 15.

MANITOBA DISTRICT, No. 15.

Number	Name.	Location.	Regular Meetings.	Emergent.	Total.	Average attendance, Members.	Average attendance, Visitors.	No. Members Dec., 1902.	Petitions Accepted.	No. Candidates Initiated.	Affiliations.	Restorations.	Withdrawals.	Suspensions.	Deaths.	No. of Members Dec., 1903.	M. M. M. Conferred.	M. E. M. Conferred.	Royal Arch Conferred.	Annual dues per Member.	No. Members 12 mos. in Arrears.	Liabilities of Chapter.	Dues Outstanding	Assets.	Amount of Insurance.	Can Ex. Z., work all Degrees?
52	Prince Rupert	Winnipeg	10	5	15	26	5	188	25	13	4	4	4	4	4	201	13	13	14	\$3 00	37	\$10 00	\$438 00	\$1657 00	\$1400 00	Yes
101	Corinthian	Boissevain	6	2	8	10	1	45	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	45	1	1	1	2 00	10	125 00	750 00	250 00	Yes	
111	Zeredatha	Morden	10	5	15	26	5	188	25	13	4	4	4	4	4	201	13	13	14	\$3 00	37	\$10 00	\$438 00	\$1657 00	\$1400 00	Yes

BRITISH COLUMBIA DISTRICT, No. 16.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

I have the honor to present my report as Grand Superintendent of the British Columbia District, No. 16, for the year 1903.

VANCOUVER CHAPTER, NO. 98, VANCOUVER.—I attend the convocations of this Chapter regularly. The past year has for various reasons been very quiet so far as exaltations are concerned, but the practice of our rites and ceremonies have in every respect equalled the reputation of the Chapter in the past. The financial condition of the Chapter is very good, and the books are in excellent order. I believe the coming year will be one of the most prosperous in the history of the Chapter. The Most Excellent degree is regularly conferred according to the revised ritual.

WESTMINSTER CHAPTER, NO. 124, NEW WESTMINSTER.—During the summer months this Chapter closed down, which accounts for the small number of meetings. I look for a continuation of good work and prosperity for this Chapter, for which I believe I am fully justified in their choice of officers for the ensuing year.

KEYSTONE CHAPTER, NO. 127, NANAIMO.—I cannot say too much in praise of the manner in which the officers of this Chapter have taken hold of their work. The three degrees were conferred during my visit by the proper officers in a manner I have seldom seen excelled. The Grand Chapter may rest assured that there is no danger in the immediate future of this Chapter lapsing into the condition it did before it received its charter from the Grand Chapter of Canada.

During the year we were honored by a visit from the R. E. the Grand J., which visit I can assure you we fully appreciated. I cannot impress too strongly upon you the influence for good, visits of this nature from the high officers of the Grand Chapter have on Royal Arch Masonry in this western province.

Numerous complaints have been made to me by Companions of the three Chapters in this district that the Chapters in Seattle and Tacoma, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Washington, refuse them admission as Royal Arch Masons, on the ground that they have never received the Past Master degree, although they may be perfectly satisfied they are Royal Arch Masons in good standing. I have been informed by reliable Companions that these Chapters have consented to admit them if they would permit the degree of Past Master to be conferred on them and pay a fee for same. The members of Keystone Chapter, No. 127, exalted when the Chapter was under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Scotland received the degree of Past Master and are admitted, but the Companions exalted since the Chapter came under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Canada are refused. If Royal Arch Masons in good standing are entitled by right to admission to Chapters of Royal Arch Masons in the United States, when a lodge of Past Masters is not at work, I respectfully request that the matter be taken up by the proper authorities and adjusted.

I enclose a statement of the work done, and the financial standing of the Chapters in this district.

Fraternally submitted,

F. J. SCHOFIELD,

Grand Supt, B. C. District, No. 16.

BRITISH COLUMBIA DISTRICT, No. 16.

Number.		Name.	Location.
98	Vancouver....	Vancouver....	
124	W esnster..	New West- minster	
127	Keystone	Nanaimo ...	
			Regular Meetings.
			Emergent.
			Total.
			Average attendance, Members.
			Average attendance, Visitors.
			As per last Return.
			Petitions Accepted.
			Initiations.
			Affiliations.
			Restorations.
			Withdrawals.
			Suspensions
			Deaths.
			Present Number.
			M. M. M. Conferred.
			M. E. M. Conferred.
			R. A. Conferred.
			Total.
			Annual Dues.
			No. 12 Months in Arrears.
			Liabilities of Chapter.
			Assets.
			Cash or Securities
			Property.
			Dues Outstanding.
			Insurance.
			Prospects of Chapter.
			Can Z. work all Degrees ?

ALBERTA DISTRICT, No. 17.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

As Grand Superintendent of the Alberta district, I have the honor to report to you the following on the general condition of Capitular Masonry in this district for the year ending Dec. 31st, 1903.

There are four Chapters in this district, widely separated from each other, viz.: Alberta, No. 106, Calgary; North Star, No. 118, Edmonton; Wascana, No. 121, Regina; Assiniboia, No. 126, Medicine Hat. On account of the great distance to travel and time required, it has been a matter of considerable difficulty to arrange visits, and I have not been able to accomplish all I should have liked to do. I have, however, endeavored as far as I possibly could to fulfil my duties as faithfully as circumstances would permit.

During the year I have visited all the Chapters, excepting Wascana, of Regina, and here I was prepared during midsummer last to attend, but never could get any response to my several communications about same.

With the exception of Wascana, all the Chapters are enthusiastic, industrious, and well officered. Altogether, Capitular Masonry is advancing in the west.

ALBERTA, NO. 106, CALGARY.—This Chapter, of which I am a member, I have visited frequently, and have seen the work of the different degrees done exceedingly well. The First Principal, E. Comp. Dee, had to leave in the fall for duty at Hudson's Bay, and his absence was very much felt in the work of the Chapter. The officers are all capable, and are ably assisted by a number of past Principals. This Chapter is prospering well.

NORTH STAR, NO. 118, EDMONTON.—My visit to North Star was not well timed, as I found the Companions had just moved into more commodious quarters and

were consequently somewhat upset. They have not in the past year done as well as they should have. However, with the excellent set of officers I saw elected for the ensuing year there will no doubt be a very marked progress in this Chapter next term.

WASCANA NO. 121, REGINA.—This Chapter, I regret to say, has not given satisfaction for a number of years. I have never been able to get any response to my various letters, and have received only one notice of a meeting, a recent one. This Chapter would certainly be the better of being disciplined a little.

ASSINIBOIA, NO. 126, MEDICINE HAT.—I had a very enjoyable visit here. R. E. Comp. Markley accompanied me. We found an energetic lot of Companions, who are making marked progress, notwithstanding the great disadvantages they labored under, the majority of their members and workers being railway men, who find it difficult often to make their time fit. There are splendid prospects ahead for this Chapter.

In every Chapter visited I found that they were particularly favored in the persons of their S. E.'s, all books and records being in excellent shape.

Respectfully submitted,

G. MACDONALD,

Grand Superintendent, Alberta District, No. 17.

ALBERTA DISTRICT, No. 17.

Number.	Name.	Location.	Regular Meetings.	Emergent.	Average attendance, Members.	Average attendance, Visitors.	As per last Return.	Petitions Accepted.	Initiations.	Restorations.	Withdrawals.	Deaths.	Present Members.	M. M. M. Conferred.	M. E. M. Conferred.	R. A. Conferred.	Annual Dues.	No. Members 12 mos. in Arrears.	Liabilities.	Dues Outstanding.	Cash or Securities.	Property.	Amount of Insurance.	Initiation Fee.	Prospects of Chapter.	Can E. Z. work all Deg's.
106	Alberta	Calgary	12	1	15	1	80	7	7	..	..	285	6	6	6	6	\$3 00	20	\$50 00	\$100 00	\$300 00	\$450 00	\$250 00	\$30 00	Excellent	Yes
118	North Star ...	Edmonton .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
121	Wascana	Regina .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
126	Assiniboia ...	Medicine Hat	5	7	3	2	17	5	9	26	1	124	8	7	6	6	3 00	2	50 00	24 00	113 00	130 00	.....	30 00	Very good	Yes

KOOTENAY DISTRICT, No. 18.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

I have the honor to present my report as Grand Superintendent of Kootenay District, No. 18, on the condition of Capitular Masonry during 1903.

I am pleased to report an increase in the membership of each Chapter in this district, and the preliminary steps are being taken to organize a new Chapter at Fernie, so that I am able to continue the favorable reports of my predecessors.

I did not make as many visits as I would have liked, but I do not think Capitular Masonry has in any way suffered thereby.

R. E. Companion Chipman, at Kaslo, and R. E. Companion Mitchell, at Rosland, do not require assistance from anyone, and the Chapters at Fort Steele and Revelstoke are also in good hands.

KOOTENAY CHAPTER, NO. 120, KASLO.—This is the parent Chapter in this district, and has, naturally suffered from its territory having been restricted by the formation of new Chapters. It has also suffered from the depression in the silver-lead industry, but as better times are in store for this industry, Kootenay Chapter will participate in the revival. It was my intention to be present at the installation of the officers of this Chapter at their December meeting, but I was prevented at the last moment, much to my regret.

ROSSLAND CHAPTER, NO. 122, ROSSLAND.—I visited this Chapter on the 26th August, and saw the Royal Arch degree conferred by R. E. Companion Mitchell. The work of this Chapter is of a very high order, which, no doubt, accounts for its large membership, the amount of work done, and the affluence of its circumstances. R. E. Companion Mitchell has been re-elected First Principal, with the brightest prospects for the ensuing year.

NELSON CHAPTER, No. 123, NELSON.—This is my own Chapter, and I have been present at nearly all of the meetings held during the year. The work done during the year was satisfactory, and the prospects for the next year are very bright.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN CHAPTER, No. 125, FORT STEELE.—I visited this Chapter on the 9th June, but the principal object of my visit, the installation of E. Companion Harvey, was defeated through my inability to get another installed First Principal to accompany me. However, I saw the Mark Master degree worked in a highly creditable manner. This Chapter suffers from being away from the line of railway, but the disadvantage is largely overcome by the enthusiasm of its members.

REVELSTOKE CHAPTER, No. 128, REVELSTOKE.—I intended to visit this Chapter at the installation of its officers, but again failed to secure a second installed First Principal to accompany me, so that it was not possible to open a Council of Installed First Principals, and as I could not see that I could confer any benefit in proportion to the time it required (three days), I did not go. The prospects of this Chapter are excellent, and I have no doubt that it will continue to prosper, as it has done from the start.

The two things which have particularly struck me during my term of office are, the smallness of the attendance at the regular meetings and the inappropriateness of the requirement of three installed First Principals to open a Council and install a First Principal in a district like this. It has occurred to me that if a Grand Superintendent was invested with the powers of two installed First Principals as a stipendary magistrate has the powers of two justices of the peace, it would greatly facilitate matters.

Appended is tabulated statement of the condition of the several Chapters in this district.

Respectfully submitted,

GEO. JOHNSTONE,

Grand Superintendent, Kootenay District, No. 18.

KOOTENAY DISTRICT, No. 18.

Number.	Name.	Location.	Regular Meetings.	Emergent.	Total.	Average attendance, Members.	Average attendance, Visitors.	As per last Return.	Petitions Accepted.	Initiations.	Affiliations.	Restorations.	Withdrawals.	Suspensions.	Deaths.	Present Membership.	M. M. M. Conferred.	M. E. M. Conferred.	R. A. Conferred.	Annual Dues.	No. Members 12 mos. in Arrears.	Liabilities.	Assets.	Cash.	Property.	Dues Outstanding.	Amount of Insurance.	Prospects.	Can Ex. Z. work all Degrees?
120	Kootenay	Kaslo	5	5	10	35	3	1	36	15	15	15	15	2	8	1362 00	702 00	500 00	100 00	65 00	400 00	Good	Yes						
122	Rosland	Rosland	8	10	18	15	3	58	16	15	1	1	2	72	15	15	15	15	2	00	8	1362 00	702 00	500 00	100 00	65 00	400 00	Good	Yes
123	Nelson	Nelson	12	1	13	12	3	40	10	10	3	1	1	2	51	10	9	9	3	00	21	500 00	200 00	300 00	88 00	200 00	Good	Yes	
125	Rocky Mount- ain	Fort Steele	9	4	13	10	1	33	7	7	1	1	1	39	7	7	7	7	3	00	14	390 00	190 00	200 00	65 00	200 00	Good	Yes	
128	Revelstoke	Revelstoke	11	4	15	15	2	28	12	11	1	1	1	39	11	11	9	3	00	9	696 00	117 00	500 00	79 00	.....	Good	Yes		

GRAND J.'S REPORT.

Abraham Shaw, Esq., Grand First Principal, Grand Chapter of Canada:

Most Ex. Sir:

In accordance with the requirements of the Constitution, I beg herewith to submit to you a report of my official work as Grand J. of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

My first official act as Grand J. was to visit St. Paul's Chapter at its regular convocation in the month of February, and I had the pleasure of installing R. E. Companion James Bicknell as the Grand Superintendent of the Toronto District. The act was one which I took great pleasure in, as R. E. Companion Bicknell, besides being a personal friend of mine, is a man of high legal attainments, and one who gave every promise of bringing to the office careful and wise administration, the result of his year's work being such that all I predicted for him has come true, he having made a most excellent District Superintendent.

Nothing of importance of an official character requiring my attention occurred until a severe loss was sustained by Grand Chapter in the death of our esteemed Companion, R. E. Comp. D. H. Martyn, Grand H., who passed away on the 19th July, the third day after his return to his home from the meeting of Grand Lodge. While he was attending Grand Lodge it could not help but be noticed that he was a very sick man, and he was taken with a bad spell on Wednesday night, and it was with difficulty that he was able to reach his home on Thursday night, and he passed away on the following Sunday morning. I deemed it but right that I should attend his funeral, which I did, and as you were unfortunately unable to be present, and having sent word to the District Superintendent to attend the funeral, he and I represented Grand Chapter on that solemn occasion.

I have to thank you for appointing me to be acting Grand H. for the balance of the official year, which you did shortly after R. E. Companion Martyn's death.

It was my privilege to pay a visit to the Pacific Coast this last summer, and while there I took occasion to pay an official visit to Vancouver Chapter on the 19th of August, at which a large number of the leading Companions of that city and district were present. The Royal Arch Degree was worked by the Past Z.'s of the Chapter, and it was done in a highly creditable and satisfactory manner. I was accompanied by R. E. Companion Benjamin Allen, who kindly delayed his return east on that day to accompany me, and I desire to express my thanks to him for having done so. There was a large delegation of officers and members of the New Westminster Chapter, which added to the pleasure of the meeting.

I had arranged to visit Nanaimo Chapter, but owing to their inability to get a quorum, I was unable to get over to it, but I heard good accounts of the Chapter, and it was left in excellent condition, owing to the efforts of R. E. Companion Schofield, the District Superintendent there, who, with E. Companion Sykes, had taken charge of the Chapter the previous year.

New Westminster Chapter was unable to arrange a meeting for me during the time I was there, but, as I said before, they came over in goodly numbers to attend the Chapter in Vancouver.

I am very pleased to be able to report that Royal Arch Masonry in our far west jurisdiction is in a very thriving and flourishing condition, and the enthusiasm shown by the members is such that we can be justly proud of the Companions in the western portion of our jurisdiction.

Had I known that it was the intention of Rossland Chapter to have had two days of degree work, and to welcome some American visitors, I would have so timed my visit to that city as to be present on that occasion, but I did not hear of it in time. I arrived the day after, and

found that most enthusiastic meetings had been held, and great progress had been made in Capitular Masonry in that city. I received at the hands of the Excellent Z. of the Chapter great kindness and courtesy, and I cannot thank him and other Companions of Rossland too much for what they did for me in the way of hospitality. The Chapter there has splendid quarters, and is in a most flourishing condition.

Altogether, I was delighted with what I saw of Capitular Masonry in the province of British Columbia.

On my return I wrote the District Superintendent of Algoma, who resides at Port Arthur, that I would like to have a meeting on the evening of Thursday, the 3rd of November. I received a hearty welcome as a member of the Grand Council, and the M. M. M. Degree was worked upon four candidates. On that occasion I had the pleasure of meeting R. E. Companion J. W. Morgan, District Superintendent, and also R. E. Companion S. W. Ray. A pleasing feature of the occasion was the welcome extended to the first Principal of the Chapter, who had instituted it, and who had returned on a visit to Port Arthur after an absence of several years in the North-West. The Excellent Companion received a very loyal and hearty reception at the hands of his Companions, and they were very glad to see him after an absence of so many years.

It has been my privilege on several occasions to visit with you a number of the Chapters. These I need not set out in detail. No doubt you have kept full account of the same. Only I desire to say that each visit has been one of pleasure and profit to myself, and I cannot overlook mentioning in particular the visits to Port Hope, London, and also to Hamilton, when the presentation of an address was made to M. E. Companion Gibson and the testimonial ordered by Grand Chapter was handed over to that most worthy Past Grand Z.

In my capacity as acting Grand H., I have, I hope, fulfilled the duties of the office to your satisfaction, and that the trust which you then reposed in me has met with your approval. The chief matter which I would refer

to while acting in that capacity was the investing of the funds of Grand Chapter in the debentures of the town of Orillia, full particulars of which have been furnished to you.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM ROAF,

Grand J.

TORONTO, January 4th, 1904.

REPORT OF THE GRAND SCRIBE E.

To the M. E. the Grand Z., Officers and Members of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada:

COMPANIONS,—Immediately following the close of last Annual Convocation, and in accordance with the resolution then adopted, I prepared for the printer, and subsequently issued, the Constitution as revised by Grand Chapter, advising every constituent Chapter of the same. I also, under instruction, issued a circular, notifying each Chapter to the effect that, although our ceremonies did not specifically enjoin the presentation, it was nevertheless expected that every newly admitted member should receive a copy of the Grand Chapter Constitution, together with the by-laws of the Chapter to which he had allied himself, and that the M. E. the Grand Z. desired that this course should be followed throughout the jurisdiction. While a goodly number of the Chapters responded, there are yet a great many to be heard from. Moreover, an extended knowledge of the constitutional requirements would lessen to a considerable degree much of the appeals for information which come periodically from new officers, and incidentally save much needless correspondence.

Pursuant to instruction, I prepared, within as brief a time as possible, the restored work of the Most Excellent Master Degree, and using all necessary precaution, was enabled to place it in possession of the chief officers of each Chapter, who were thus in a position to promptly submit it for the approval of the superintending officer.

Agreeably to the recommendation of the Committee on Audit and Finance, and ratified by Grand Chapter, I invited tenders from several firms in Toronto for the printing of the Proceedings for this year. They were opened and inspected in due course by the members of the Grand Council, and that of Daniel Rose & Sons being the lowest, the work was assigned to that firm.

No provision having been made for a re-issue of the book of "Ceremonies," and the supply being exhausted.

I arranged with the printer to have it set up and to furnish me with sufficient copies to meet present needs. The type is now standing, should the Grand Chapter decide upon any alterations or amendments.

The Committee on Warrants having recommended the issue of charters to the Companions at Southampton, Wiarton and Gananoque, working under dispensation, and the same having been confirmed by Grand Chapter, I caused warrants to be engrossed and forwarded respectively to Chantry Chapter, No. 130; Amabel Chapter, No. 131, and Leeds Chapter, No. 132.

I also forwarded a duplicate warrant at their request, to the Companions of King Cyrus Chapter, No. 119, Leamington, and for which they paid the statutory fee of ten dollars, and did not, as has been usual in such cases, ask for a remission. The Companions lost their warrant as well as their Chapter effects by a disastrous fire early in the year, and as it is a comparatively young institution, I would respectfully suggest that the case receive the consideration of this Grand body.

From the viewpoint of the Grand Scribe E.'s office, the outlook is most encouraging. The appeal to the Chapters, of two years ago, for prompt registration of newly admitted members, has borne fruit in the past year, and in this respect alone it was kept fairly busy during that period, but there are a large number of the Chapters apparently still unaware that the immediate application for certificate and registration is a direct requirement of the Constitution, and they are quite willing that the Companion exalted in January should wait until the end of the year for what he is entitled to forthwith and has paid for. It is worthy of remark that Chapters which have undertaken the systematic course have all been actively busy, and I do not hesitate to state that the remarkable increase in our membership during the past twelve months is due not a little, to the compliance with this regulation. It is an encouragement to the newly exalted Companion and an incentive to activity in the officers and members of the Chapter. Of course, the volume of correspondence is doubled, and the incidental

expenses proportionately increased, but such considerations are small compared with the net results, not the least of which is that it brings the Chapters into closer and constant touch with headquarters, thereby creating a new and lively interest, the effect of which cannot be measured by the limit of a single year.

Keeping pace with the advance in membership, the number of Chapters is on the increase, five having been added to the roll during the year.

Beaver Chapter, No. 74, Strathroy, which surrendered its charter in 1895, is again an active body. Five of the original membership, together with six resident Companions who had received the degrees in Minnewawa Chapter, No. 78, at Parkhill, having petitioned for a restoration of the warrant, I forwarded the same under instruction from the M. E. the Grand Z. on the 18th November last.

Dispensations for new Chapters at Smith's Falls, Cannington and Uxbridge in Ontario and at Neepawa in Manitoba were during the year issued under direction of the M. E. the Grand Z., the petition in each case being recommended in accordance with the regulations. The following were the applicants in each instance:

"ST. FRANCIS" CHAPTER, U. D., Smith's Falls, Ont., 9th June, 1903.—John A. Houston, St. John's, No. 159, G. R. Ireland; C. H. Whitworth and F. C. Austin, St. Lawrence, No. 100, G. R. C.; W. H. Wilson and D. W. Parke, Maitland, No. 68, G. R. C.; Geo. T. Martin, Richard Craig, H. S. McNeill, William H. Code, F. U. Miskelly, Chas. Coghlan and John R. Michel, Maple, No. 116, G. R. C.

"KING DARIUS" CHAPTER, U. D., Cannington, Ont., 1st September, 1903.—Henry Glendinning, Joseph A. Kift, William Major, Harry D. Talbot, Thos. Foster, Frank Campbell, Nelson McLeod and William Bick, Midland, No. 94, G. R. C.; Percy E. Byrne and Hugh Wilson, King Solomon's, No. 8, G. R. C.; G. J. Early, Corinthian, No. 36, G. R. C.

“SUCCOTH” CHAPTER, U. D., Uxbridge, Ont., 29th October, 1903.—James Bicknell, St. Paul's, No. 65, G. R. C.; David Andrew Clark, Geo. H. Campbell, Vivian M. Hare, Mortimer W. Plank, Homer E. Maddock, William Gordon, Roland Hollinger, Duncan Campbell, William S. Ormiston, William J. Underwood and Charles E. Jones, Doric, No. 60, G. R. C.

“KING EDWARD” CHAPTER, U. D., Neepawa, Manitoba, 10th October, 1903.—George McIntyre Gibbs and Alex. B. Stennett, Ezra, No. 23, G. R. C.; Edwin O. Denison and Joseph S. Armitage, King Hiram, No. 57, G. R. C.; William J. Cooper and Leslie Remey, Keystone, No. 99, G. R. C.; Fred. L. Newman, Kootenay, No. 120, G. R. C.; Robert G. McCosh, Ionic, No. 83, G. R. C.; John R. Edwards, Oxford, No. 18, G. R. C.; James B. Noble, Bruce, No. 53, G. R. C.

Of the above, the first three are at active work, and likely to do credit to their sponsors. The Companions of King Edward Chapter, owing to an unforeseen delay in the completion of the new Masonic Hall at Neepawa, have been compelled to lie on their oars until the new year, but reports indicate that the new Chapter in Manitoba will not be lagging in the race for a foremost position.

The story of the year is a remarkable one. Facts are stubborn things, and the figures to be presented to you in the financial and statistical statements eloquently tell the tale. Last year the advance in receipts was sufficiently large to warrant special mention. This year it has overtopped that considerably, being \$850 ahead of the former total. Our net increase in membership for the period ended 31st December, 1902, was 477, a growth upon which Grand Chapter was generally congratulated, as such a figure had never before been recorded. In the year just closed we have made the unprecedented net gain of 738, while the number of suspensions and withdrawals are lessening, and the restorations increasing.

Altogether, Grand Chapter in every phase of its present existence can be truly described as prosperous and happy, the growth in membership and finances has

never before been paralleled, within the confines of its large jurisdiction the echo of grievance or appeal has not once been heard, and there is not a speck on its horizon to suggest the slightest indication of anything to disturb the calm serenity of its future,

Returns from the following Chapters had not been received up to the morning of the Annual Convocation: St. James', No. 46; Zeredatha, No. 111, and Revelstoke, No. 128.

The following is a statement of the moneys received from the Chapters during the year:

CASH STATEMENT.—GRAND SCRIBE E.

DR.

From Chapters.—Certificates	\$916 00	
Registration Fees	939 00	
Membership Dues	1865 05	
Dispensations	117 00	
Warrants	70 00	
Constitutions	132 40	
Sundries	66 95	
	<hr/>	\$4106 40
Interest, Toronto General Trusts.....	80 00	
Interest, Industrial School Bonds.....	680 00	
	<hr/>	760 00
Total.....		\$4866 40

1903.

CR.

May 21	Grand Treasurer.....	\$400 00
July 1	" "	40 00
July 4	" "	300 00
Sept. 29	" "	150 00
Oct. 13	" "	150 00
Dec. 11	" "	200 00
Dec. 21	" "	400 00
Dec. 31	" "	500 00
1904.		
Jan. 1	" "	40 00
Jan. 8	" "	500 00
Jan. 15	" "	1000 00
Jan. 22	" "	506 00
Jan. 22	" "	680 00
		<hr/>
		\$4866 40

ANNUAL STATEMENT, 31ST DECEMBER, 1903.

RECEIPTS FROM CHAPTERS.

1 Ant. Front. & Catqi. \$ 23 70	66 The Malloch 19 80
2 The Hiram 130 15	67 Enterprise 64 00
3 St. John's..... 152 05	68 Maitland 6 50
4 St. And. & St. Jn's.. 46 50	69 Grimsby 42 40
5 St. George's..... 57 00	70 Grand River..... 39 25
6 St. John's..... 93 90	71 Pr. of Wales 41 00
7 The Moira 31 00	72 Keystone 9 25
8 King Solomon's 51 40	73 Erie..... 20 50
15 Wawanosh 73 25	74 Beaver 2 75
16 Carleton 47 10	75 St. Clair 26 25
18 Oxford 32 40	76 Mt. Nebo..... 65 25
19 Mt. Moriah 30 75	77 Occident 124 75
20 Mt. Horeb. 31 50	78 Minnewawa 24 75
22 Grenville 25 90	79 Orient 40 40
23 Ezra 52 50	80 Ark..... 39 00
24 Tecumseh 44 50	81 Aylmer 18 50
26 St. Mark's 29 00	82 Shuniah 39 25
27 Manitou 40 50	83 Ionic..... 15 20
28 Pentalpha..... 37 15	84 Lebanon 28 25
29 McCallum 20 50	86 Macpherson 30 95
30 Huron 19 25	88 MacNabb 23 00
31 Pr. Edward 86 25	90 Golden 32 75
32 Waterloo 54 25	91 Antiquity 76 95
34 Signet 107 75	94 Midland 75 05
35 Keystone 65 75	95 Tuscan 37 70
36 Corinthian 29 00	98 Vancouver 57 75
37 Victoria 47 40	100 St. Lawrence 40 80
40 Guelph 25 25	101 Corinthian 14 25
41 Harris 20 00	102 Algonquin 81 25
44 Mt. Sinai 25 50	103 St. John's..... 37 65
45 Excelsior 53 45	104 White Oak 19 50
46 St. James' 6 00	106 Alberta 34 25
47 Wellington..... 39 90	110 Warkworth 42 00
48 St. John's..... 11 00	112 St. John's..... 12 60
50 Saugeen 9 50	114 Bonnechere 30 00
52 Pr. Rupert 80 75	115 Brant 14 40
54 Palestine 71 40	116 Maple 35 00
55 Niagara 23 70	117 Berlin 20 25
56 Georgian 44 75	119 King Cyrus 31 50
57 King Hiram 12 65	120 Kootenay 10 00
58 Pembroke..... 15 50	121 Wascana 7 40
59 Sussex 46 25	122 Rossland 16 00
60 Doric 84 75	123 Nelson 63 15
61 Granite..... 25 50	124 Westminster..... 15 25
62 York..... 42 45	126 Assiniboia 33 20
63 Havelock 21 50	127 Keystone 24 75
64 Willson..... 23 00	128 Revelstoke 13 80
65 St. Paul's..... 47 50	129 Elliot 24 75

130 Chantry	14 00	U.D. King Edward	40 00
131 Amabel	19 00	“ Succoth	52 00
132 Leeds	61 75		
U.D. St. Francis	63 00		\$4106 04
“ King Darius	43 00		

Interest, Toronto General Trusts	\$80 00	
Interest, Industrial School Bonds	680 00	
		<hr/> 760 00
Total		\$4866 40

Fraternally submitted.

GEO. J. BENNETT,
Grand Scribe E.

REPORT OF THE GRAND TREASURER.

HUGH MURRAY, GRAND TREASURER, IN ACCOUNT WITH THE
GRAND CHAPTER, ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF CANADA.

1903.	DR.	
Jan. 27,	To Balance, as per Statement at this date	\$4130 87
May 27,	" Grand Scribe E.	400 00
July 4,	" " " " Interest, Toronto General Trusts	
	Bonds	40 00
" 6,	" Grand Scribe E.	300 00
" 29,	" " " " Interest, Toronto Industrial School	
	Bonds	340 00
Sep. 30,	" Grand Scribe E.	150 00
Oct. 14,	" " " "	150 00
Dec. 12,	" " " "	200 00
" 12,	" " " " Interest, Toronto Industrial School	
	Bonds	340 00
" 22,	" Grand Scribe E.	400 00
1904.		
Jan. 4,	" " " "	500 00
" 4,	" " " " Interest, Toronto General Trusts	
	Bonds	40 00
" 9,	" Grand Scribe E.	500 00
" 16,	" " " "	1000 00
" 23,	" " " "	506 40
		<hr/>
		\$8997 27

1903.	CR.	
Feb. By Order No. 1233,	Grand Scribe E., Incidentals.	\$ 31 50
" " 1234,	Geo. J. Bennett, For. Correspondence	
	Report	100 00
" " 1232,	J. H. Pritchard, Grand Janitor	5 00
" " 1235,	Grand Scribe E., Advance Incidentals..	200 00
" " 1219,	Arch'd. Cooper, Benevolence	20 00
" " 1226,	Mrs. W. Marriott "	7 50
" " 1229,	C. W. Smith, "	20 00
" " 1228,	F. P. Gassion, "	25 00
" " 1231,	Mrs. Alex Findlay "	15 00
" " 1220,	Mrs. G. Black, "	10 00
" " 1225,	James O'Connor, "	25 00
" " 1214,	Mrs. John Kennedy, "	10 00
" " 1212,	William Hawthorne, "	25 00
" " 1240,	Mrs. E. J. Thomas, "	10 60
" " 1213,	Mrs. Edment Hill, "	10 00
" " 1230,	Mrs. H. D. Fraser "	5 00
" " 1223,	Mrs. W. B. Wallace, "	10 00
" " 1211,	Mrs. Jno. Munro, "	10 00
" " 1221,	Fred Mudge, "	20 00
" " 1217,	Miss Kerr, "	5 00
" " 1222,	Mrs. J. S. Baker, "	20 00

Feb.	By Order	1216, W. G. Coulter, Benevolence.....	20 00
"	"	1227, Mrs. P. Grant, ".....	10 00
"	"	1218, Mrs. Vaux, ".....	5 00
"	"	1224, Mrs. Hugh Rankin, ".....	15 00
Mar.,	"	1236, A. Kent, & Sons, 33 90	
"	"	1238, Miss Shaw, Engrossing.....	1 25
"	"	1239, D. Henderson, Engrossing Warrants ...	12 00
"	"	1241, The Hunter Rose Co., Proceedings	322 69
Apl.,	"	1237, A. Shaw, Expenses attending Com.....	3 75
"	"	1245, Grand Scribe E., Salary to 31st Mar ...	300 00
"	"	1244, Grand Treasurer, Salary to 31st Mar ...	25 00
"	"	1242, Rolph Smith & Co., Certificates.....	130 00
"	"	1215, Mrs. John Holman, Benevolence.....	10 00
May,	"	1243, The Briggs Printing Co., ".....	26 75
"	"	1250, R. F. Killakey, Furniture.....	30 00
June,	"	1246, The Holmes Electric Co.....	1 75
"	"	1249, The Hunter Rose Co., Printing.....	181 25
"	"	1248, The Thomson Engraving Co., Dies, &c. ...	17 50
"	"	1247, Donald Bain & Co., Office fixtures.....	17 35
July,	"	1254, Grand Treasurer, Salary to 30th June....	25 00
"	"	1255, Grand Scribe E., Salary to 30th June ..	300 00
"	"	1251, Grand Scribe E., Rent.....	75 00
"	"	1253, B. Cairns, Electros.....	4 30
"	"	1252, Rolph Smith & Co., Certificates.....	70 00
Aug.,	"	1271, Frank P. Gassion, Benevolence.....	25 00
"	"	1262, Arch'd. Cooper, ".....	20 00
"	"	1276, E. Miller, Floral Decoration.....	15 00
"	"	1257, Mrs. Edment Hill, Benevolence.....	10 00
"	"	1272, C. W. Smith, ".....	20 00
"	"	1259, Mrs. John Holman, ".....	10 00
"	"	1256, William Hawthorne, ".....	25 00
"	"	1258, Mrs. John Kennedy, ".....	10 00
"	"	1274, Mrs. Alex Findlay, ".....	15 00
"	"	1267, Mrs. Hugh Rankin, ".....	15 00
"	"	1268, James O'Connor, ".....	25 00
"	"	1273, Mrs. H. D. Fraser, ".....	5 00
"	"	1275, Mrs. John Munro, ".....	10 00
"	"	1263, Mrs. G. E. S. Black, ".....	10 00
"	"	1266, Mrs. Wallace, ".....	10 00
"	"	1260, Miss Kerr, ".....	5 00
"	"	1265, Mrs. J. S. Baker, ".....	20 00
"	"	1269, Mrs. W. Marriott, ".....	7 50
Sept.,	"	1264, Frederick Mudge, ".....	20 00
"	"	1270, Mrs. T. Grant, ".....	10 00
"	"	1277, American Security Co., Bonds of Grand Scribe E. and Grand Treasurer.....	15 00
"	"	1278, Mrs. E. J. Thomas, Benevolence.....	10 00
"	"	1261, Mrs. Jane Vaux, ".....	5 00
"	"	1279, Dominion Securities Corporation, De- benture.....	2496 70
"	"	1281, Grand Scribe E., Salary to 30th Sept....	300 00
"	"	1280, Grand Treasurer, ".....	25 00
Oct.,	"	1283, Rolph Smith & Co., Certificates.....	70 00
"	"	1284, Malcolm Gibbs, Insurance.....	3 95

Oct.,	By Order	1182, D. Henderson, Engrossing Warrant	4 00
Dec.,	"	1285, The Briggs Printing Co., Printing	21 75
"	"	1286, The Briggs Printing Co., "	3 50
"	"	1287, Grand Z., Expenses	5 50
"	"	1288 The Temple Building, Rent	75 00
"	"	1289, Edith E. Shaw, Engrossing Testimonial	50 00
1904.			
Jan.,	"	1290, Henry Birks & Son, Testimonial to Grand Z	250 00
"	"	1292, The Grand Treasurer, Salary to 31st Dec	25 00
"	"	1291, The Grand Scribe E., " "	300 00
"	"	1293, Rolph Smith & Co., Certificates	70 35
"	"	1295, A. Shaw, Grand Z., Balance of Travel- ling Expenses	116 27
"	"	1294, The Hunter Rose Co., Printing	43 50
			<u>\$6,399 51</u>

STATEMENT OF ASSETS OF GRAND CHAPTER,
25TH JANUARY, 1904.

Bonds, Toronto General Trusts Company @ 4%.....	\$ 2,000 00
Bonds, Toronto Industrial School @ 4%.....	17,000 00
Debentures, Town of Orillia No. 10, @ 4%.....	1,218 13
Debentures, Town of Orillia No. 11, @ 4%.....	1,266 86
Cash in Canadian Bank of Commerce.....	2,597 76
	<hr/>
	\$24,082 75

CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE,

HAMILTON, 25th January, 1904.

We hereby certify that the above named bonds and debentures are in the custody of the Bank for safe keeping, on account of Hugh Murray, Grand Treasurer of the Grand Chapter, and that the balance of the credit of the said Hugh Murray, as Grand Treasurer of the Grand Chapter, on the books of the Bank, at the close of business, at this date, is two thousand five hundred and ninety-seven dollars and seventy-six cents.

D. R. DUNCAN, *Manager.*

S. B. PARSONS, *Accountant.*

Fraternally submitted,

HUGH MURRAY,

Grand Treasurer.

It was moved by M. E. Comp. W. G. Reid, seconded by R. E. Comp. W. Roaf, and

Resolved,—That the Statements of the Grand Scribe E. and Grand Treasurer, for the year 1903, be received and referred to the Executive Committee, for audit and to report thereon at the present Convocation.

COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED.

A severe and what proved to be a general snow-storm occurred on the eve of the Annual Convocation, and many delegates, especially from the western portions of the jurisdiction, were unable to make connection owing to the blockade of the railways. Numerous telegrams were received during the morning from Companions who intended to be present, but were thus disappointed. Among the letters received from those who were absent by reason of being abroad, or through illness, and from the cause above referred to, the following from the under-named Companions were read: M. E. Companions J. Ross Robertson, J. E. Harding, M. Walsh, R. E. Companions J. S. Dewar, D. F. MacWatt, J. W. Morgan, A. W. R. Markley, John McLaren, William Walker, T. W. Chapple, Robt. Magness, Dr. Wm. Caw, R. S. McGill, Geo. Wenino, W. H. McFadden, V. E. Companion Wm. O'Brien, etc.

The Executive Committee presented the report on
FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

R. E. Comp. Geo. J. Bennett, chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented the report of that committee, which, on motion of M. E. Comp. W. G. Reid, seconded by R. E. Comp. W. Roaf, was received and ordered to be printed as an appendix to the Proceedings.

WARRANTS.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

Your Committee on Warrants beg to report, that in view of the satisfactory progress made by St. Francis Chapter, Smith's Falls; King Darius Chapter, Cannington; Succoth Chapter, Uxbridge, Ontario, which have

been working under dispensation, recommend that they now be granted warrants.

And we also recommend. that the dispensation granted to King Edward Chapter, Neepawa, Manitoba, be continued .

We are also pleased to note, that the warrant of Beaver Chapter. No. 74, Strathroy, Ont., which was surrendered in 1895, has been restored to them, and that they have again become an active working Chapter, and we endorse the action of the Most Excellent the Grand Z. in the matter.

Your committee would respectfully recommend that the \$10.00 (ten dollars) statutory fee for duplicate warrant received from King Cyrus Chapter, No. 119, Leamington. Ont., be refunded, they having sustained such a severe loss by fire.

All of which is respectfully and fraternally submitted,

GEO. MOORE,
Chairman.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. Geo. Moore, seconded by M. E. Comp. W. G. Reid, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Executive Committee on Warrants be received and adopted.

BENEVOLENCE.

To the Most Excellent Grand Z., Principals and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada:

The Committee on Benevolence has examined the applications for relief presented to it, and respectfully recommend that the following grants be made:

Chapter No. 1	Widow of John Munroe.....	\$20 00
" 2	Widow of Phillip J. Thomas.....	20 00
" 3	Widow of Alex. Findlay.....	30 00
" 3	Comp. William Hawthorne.....	50 00
" 6	Widow of Edment Hill.....	20 00

“	6	Widow of John Kennedy.....	20 00
“	6	Widow of John Holman.....	20 00
“	16	Daughter of William Kerr.....	10 00
“	24	Widow of John Vaux.....	10 00
“	28	Comp. C. W. Smith.....	40 00
“	29	Comp. Arch. Cooper.....	40 00
“	29	Widow of G. E. S. Black.....	20 00
“	35	Comp. Fred Mudge.....	40 00
“	37	Widow of Jonas Baker.....	40 00
“	37	Widow of W. B. Wallace.....	20 00
“	44	Widow of Hugh Rankin.....	30 00
“	44	Widow of Angus McLeod.....	30 00
“	52	Comp. James O'Connor.....	50 00
“	54	Widow of William Marriott.....	20 00
“	54	Widow of Peter Grant.....	20 00
“	77	Widow of Frank P. Gassion.....	30 00

\$580 00

Fraternally submitted,

HUGH MURRAY,
Chairman, pro tem.

It was moved by M. E. Comp W. G. Reid, seconded by M. E. Comp. Hugh Murray, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Executive Committee on Benevolence be received and adopted.

CONDITION OF CAPITULAR MASONRY.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

The Committee have had submitted to them for perusal and consideration the reports of the eighteen Grand Superintendents to whom was committed the authority and duty of representing the Grand First Principal in their respective districts.

It may be instructive to those taking an interest in the work of this Grand Chapter to state that it has under its jurisdiction some 108 Chapters, which, for purposes of supervision, are grouped into 18 districts, each having a Grand Superintendent presiding over it. Of these 108 Chapters, 92 are in the province of Ontario, which

is divided into 14 districts; 4 in the province of Manitoba in one district; 4 in the district of Alberta in one district, and 8 in British Columbia in 2 districts.

The jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter covers such an enormous portion of this great Dominion (from the Ottawa River to the Pacific coast) as to make it extremely difficult, if not impossible, for the Grand First Principal to visit all the Chapters, or indeed the districts into which they have been constituted, and it is therefore of supreme importance that in these districts the Grand First Principal should be represented by able, conscientious and well-equipped Companions, so that the interests of the Royal Craft may be guarded and its progress along proper lines ensured.

It may be thought that the number of Chapters assigned to each Superintendent is small, but it must be borne in mind that even in Ontario, Chapters are at much greater distances apart than are Craft Lodges, while in the west enormous distances separate some of them. The Grand Chapter is, therefore, under deep obligations to the Companions who undertake, as a labor of love, the arduous duties of Grand Superintendents.

The eighteen Superintendents have all sent in their reports, which is very creditable to them, but it is to be regretted that some of the statistical tables, from which is ascertained the progress of the Chapters, on certain lines, do not accompany the reports.

The Committee have risen from perusal and consideration of the reports of the Grand Superintendents with a feeling of satisfaction at the marked progress therein disclosed. The untiring efforts of the representatives of the Grand First Principal have evidently borne fruit, and Grand Chapter may be congratulated on the fine showing that the Chapters have made under the direction and supervision of these officers.

Of the 92 Chapters in Ontario, 89 were inspected, leaving only three unvisited. In the province of Manitoba only one Chapter was inspected. In Alberta three of the four Chapters were inspected, and in British Co-

lumbia seven out of eight were inspected. The Chapters uninspected are:

No.	41	Harris.....	Ingersoll, Ontario.
"	84	Lebanon.....	Wingham, Ontario.
"	110	Warkworth.....	Warkworth, Ontario.
"	111	Zeredatha.....	Morden, Manitoba.
"	101	Corinthian.....	Boissevain, Manitoba.
"	121	Wascana.....	Regina, N.W.T.
"	128	Revelstoke.....	Revelstoke, Brit. Col.

It will be seen that 101 out of 108 Chapters on the roll were inspected, leaving only the seven above named to be specially commended to the care of the incoming Grand Superintendents.

With respect to the Chapters in Manitoba, it may be said that one of them, Zeredatha, at Morden, seems to be in a dormant state. Another, Corinthian, although not inspected, is doing good work. There is another Chapter in Manitoba for which dispensation has been granted, but owing to its hall not being completed, it has not yet been instituted.

When the immensity of this jurisdiction is considered, the long distances the Chapters are apart is borne in mind, and the distance of travel remembered, your Committee are of opinion that the Grand Superintendents have performed their duties with a great deal of energy and care.

The reports disclose the fact that the Chapters are singularly well officered, as in all the Chapters except three the presiding officers are reported as being capable of working the degrees. This is a most remarkable showing.

Secretarial work is reported to be well performed in every district. This is extremely satisfactory, as in most cases a great deal of the prosperity and good work of a Chapter depends upon the business character of the work done by the Scribe E. The financial affairs of the Chapters are reported to be in a satisfactory condition, except in one or two instances. A further evi-

dence of the good business management that generally prevails is afforded by the statements in the reports that 90 out of the 108 Chapters carry full insurance. We have thus recorded: (1) That the beautiful work is well done. (2) That the business management is good; and (3) That the finances are easy. Given the above three conditions, and the result must be prosperity, and your Committee are therefore glad to be able to report that the Royal Craft throughout this immense jurisdiction is not only healthy, but even prosperous.

The numerical gain, as far as admissions are concerned, is very satisfactory; some 915 have been received into the Royal Craft as against 748 last year. The statistical tables disclose the following figures: Admissions, 915; joinings, 118; restorations, 30. Total gain, 1,063. Suspensions N.P.D., 92; resignations, 147; deaths, 86. Total, 325. Showing a net gain in the membership of 738. The total membership of Grand Chapter at the end of the year was 7,676. The gain in numerical strength is a matter for congratulation, provided the right class of men have been admitted. The character of the Royal Craft is so well established that it is rarely necessary to discipline a Companion. The record this year is no exception to the rule. Of the nearly 8,000 Royal Arch Masons in our jurisdiction not one gave cause of offence. It is of all things important that this creditable showing should be continued, which object can only be attained by careful inquiry into the character, standing in society, and habits of life of every applicant for admission; followed by an absolute exclusion of not only those found to be unworthy, but also of those about whose conduct and character there is a doubt or suspicion.

The Committee have been surprised at the great number of Companions who are in arrears for dues, and the seriously large amounts outstanding in several of the Chapters. There is no reason why this state of affairs should continue to exist, and the fact that the position is so serious is a reflection upon the standing of the Royal Craft. Chapters should not carry on their rolls, and pay dues to Grand Chapter for Companions who are able to

pay, but will not do so. Neither should Chapters subject to suspension and reflection, those Companions who, in the providence of God, are reduced to penury, and therefore are unable to pay their dues. The remedy is careful enquiry into the facts of each case, followed by suspension of the Companion who is wilfully shirking his obligations, and instant remission to those Companions who are in distressed circumstances or heavily afflicted.

Your Committee regret to have to report that Chapters of Instruction were held in only four of eighteen districts. This is a very unsatisfactory condition of affairs. Even if the Companions in office are all well skilled and the work perfect, the omission to hold Chapters of Instruction is to be deplored, because these meetings bring the officers and Companions of a district in close touch with each other, and arouse a general interest, and there is a dignity and evidence of strength in large meetings that cannot fail to impress and benefit the Companions generally, and especially those who are young in office, or have yet to assume the responsibilities thereof. The Committee would recommend to the incoming Grand Superintendents that Chapters of Instruction be held in every district, so that accurate work may be maintained, and innovations and carelessness prevented or rooted out.

The Committee deplore the death of the Grand Second Principal, Dr. D. H. Martyn, who was a tower of strength to the Royal Craft, and whose loss was severely felt in the Grand Council.

The Committee congratulate the Grand Chapter on the energy and devotion to duty displayed by the Grand First Principal, who officially visited in no less than ten of the eighteen districts, in some of them more than once, and by his presence there stimulated life and interest, giving also excellent counsel and instruction. The Grand Third Principal also visited the Companions on the Pacific coast, and the presence among them of this genial and important dignitary could not fail to be helpful and inspiring.

The Grand Superintendent of Kootenay, No. 18, calls attention to the difficulties he has experienced with respect to installation owing to the scarcity of First Principals. In two Chapters he could not install because he was unable to obtain the assistance of two First Principals, and so the old First Principals had to remain in office. The Grand Superintendent suggests that it would be well to give to his successor in this district the power of two Grand First Principals, as a stipendary magistrate is given the authority of two magistrates. This is a novel remedy, but it is doubtful for many reasons if it would be a practical one. It is to be hoped that the difficulty he has experienced will soon be removed.

This Grand Superintendent complains that Companions in this jurisdiction who visit the sister jurisdiction in the State of Washington cannot obtain admission to the Chapters there unless they have the Past Master degree conferred upon them and pay a fee for the same. The Committee are of opinion that this is a question calling for inquiry in order that fraternal courtesy may be extended to our Companions visiting Chapters in the Washington jurisdiction, and, more important still, that it may be ascertained if it is the practice under the Grand jurisdiction of Washington to confer degrees upon Companions from this jurisdiction, exacting a fee for the same.

The Committee notice with regret that there is no report from the Grand Superintendents as to the charities of the different Chapters under their supervision. This can scarcely be wondered at, as there is no column in the statistical table showing the charities of the different Chapters. The Committee are of opinion that when fresh supplies of blanks are being printed a column should be added for "charity," so that the contributions of Chapters for this noble purpose may be seen and appreciated.

The Committee have been pleased to observe that the Most Excellent Master degree in its restored form has been worked in all the districts; that its beauties

have been recognized and approved, and that in no single instance has there been any expression of complaint with respect to its restoration. Thus the wisdom of Grand Chapter's action at its last Convocation is amply vindicated, and what was the cause of a sharp difference of opinion has happily disappeared.

In conclusion, the Committee, after carefully reviewing the information which has been placed at its disposal, have come to the conclusion that there is abundant cause for satisfaction in the present condition of Royal Arch Masonry. The continued increase in the number of advancements, the excellent character of the material admitted, the widespread accuracy of the work, the good business management and consequently easy financial position, are all evidences of vitality and energy. We must not, however, rest here; there are latent possibilities in our institution, which, if called into life, would make its future magnificent. It is not by its members speaking in a doubtful or half-hearted way about its progress that it can be made great and become the power for good it ought to be. If the Royal Craft is to be made great it will be by every member who has the privilege of belonging to it, speaking with confidence as to its glorious foundation, its teachings and its standing in this Dominion, by each of them bending his energies in the direction of bringing in those members of the symbolic lodges whose standing and manner of life entitles them to obtain that exalted degree which rounds off and completes the education conveyed in the sublime degree of a Master Mason.

Fraternally Submitted,

AUBREY WHITE,
Chairman.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. Aubrey White, seconded by R. E. Comp. W. Roaf, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Executive Committee on the Condition of Capitular Masonry be received and adopted.

AUDIT AND FINANCE.

To the M. E. the Grand Z. and the Grand Chapter of Canada:

Your Committee on Audit and Finance beg leave to report as follows: That we have examined the books and vouchers of the Grand Scribe E. and Grand Treasurer, and find that they agree accurately with the bank's certified statement up to Dec. 31st, 1903. The following is a statement of receipts and disbursements for the past year:

RECEIPTS.

To Balance on hand Dec. 31st, 1902.....	\$4130 87
Certificates	916 00
Registration Fees	939 00
Membership Dues	1865 05
Dispensations	117 00
Warrants	70 00
Constitutions	132 40
Sundries	66 95
Interest, Toronto General Trusts.....	80 00
Interest, Industrial School Bonds.....	680 00
	<hr/> \$8997 27

DISBURSEMENTS.

Orders on Benevolence	\$595 00
Salary, Grand Scribe E.....	1200 00
Salary, Grand Treasurer.....	100 00
Foreign Correspondence	100 00
Rent, Temple Building.....	150 00
The Hunter Rose Co., Proceedings, etc.....	322 69
The Hunter Rose Co., Constitutions.....	181 25
Briggs Printing Co.....	25 25
Briggs Printing Co.....	26 75
The Hunter Rose Co., Ceremonies.....	43 50
Rolph Smith & Co., Certificates.....	340 35
Engrossing Warrants, D. Henderson.....	16 00
Engrossing Resolution of Condolence.....	1 25
Kent & Co., Regalia and Supplies.....	33 90
Holmes Electric Co.....	1 75
Thomson Engraving Co.....	17 50
E. Millar, Floral Design.....	15 00
Insurance	3 95
Engrossing Address to Past Grand Z.....	50 00
Testimonial to Past Grand Z., Birks & Sons....	250 00

Grand Z., Travelling Expenses.....	125 52
Incidentals, G. S. E.....	231 50
Guarantee Bonds	15 00
D. Bain & Co., Office Fixtures.....	17 35
B. Cairns, Electros.....	4 30
Dominion Securities Corp'n, Debentures....	2496 70
Grand Janitor	5 00
Furniture	30 00
<hr/>	
Total Disbursements	6399 51
Balance on hand, Bank of Commerce.....	2597 76
<hr/>	
	\$8997 27

ASSETS.

Bonds, Toronto General Trusts.....	\$2,000 00
Bonds, Toronto Industrial School.....	17,000 00
Debentures, Town of Orillia.....	1,218 13
Debentures, Town of Orillia.....	1,266 86
Balance, Bank of Commerce.....	2,597-76
<hr/>	
	\$24,082 75

LIABILITIES.

Benevolence	\$580 00
Foreign Correspondence	100 00
Incidentals, 1904	275 00
Balance, 1903	73 25
<hr/>	
	\$1,028 25

Your Committee are pleased to notice in the Grand Treasurer's statement that the sum of \$2,484.99 has been invested in such good security, viz.: Debentures of the Town of Orillia, guaranteed by the County of Simcoe and bearing interest at 4 per cent. per annum. We are further pleased to observe the great financial progress made by Grand Chapter during the past year.

There cannot be any question as to the propriety of complimenting the Grand Scribe E. and the Grand Treasurer upon the accuracy and neatness in which their books are kept. Grand Chapter is to be congratulated on possessing two such efficient and painstaking officers.

Fraternally submitted,

W. A. MacKay,
Acting Chairman.

Moved by R. E. Comp. W. A. MacKay, seconded by M. E. Comp. W. G. Reid, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Executive Committee on Audit and Finance be received and adopted.

GRAND Z.'S ADDRESS.

To the Most Excellent Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada:

The Executive Committee beg leave to present the following report on the address of the M. E. the Grand First Principal.

The Committee have much pleasure in congratulating Grand Chapter upon the phenomenal growth in membership and upon the improved financial standing of the Royal Craft.

Much credit for the advance made during the year just closed is due to the care and attention given to the affairs of Royal Arch Masonry by the Most Excellent Grand Z. and the Executive.

The Committee laments the deaths of eminent craftsmen in this and sister jurisdictions, and joins the Grand Z. in the warmest thanks to those Companions in an adjoining jurisdiction for kindness and sympathy extended to the Grand Second Principal of this Grand Chapter while he was seeking for health far from home, and recommends that memorial pages in the Proceedings of Grand Chapter be erected to the memory of M. E. Companion J. J. Mason and R. E. Companions DeWitt H. Martyn, John Creasor, W. G. Coulter, and V. E. Companion Senator Lachlan McCallum.

The Committee heartily approves of the conclusion arrived at by the M. E. the Grand Z. on the question of jurisdiction referred to in his address.

No question is more jealously guarded and none has been more prolific of dissensions than the conferring of degrees upon brethren who are clearly the material of another Grand body. It is a universal Masonic law that each sovereign body has absolute control over all the residents within its jurisdiction; that being the case, it is the part of wisdom never to infringe on this recog-

nized law, and never to seek for any cause whatever of a waiver of jurisdiction.

The Committee are of opinion that correctness in the esoteric work of the degrees is of prime importance, and recommend that the M. E. the Grand First Principal call to his counsel such eminent Companions as in his wisdom he shall select, and that he shall authoritatively give such decisions thereon as shall secure uniformity.

The Committee has carefully considered the address referred to them, in all its details, and heartily approves of same, and again congratulates Grand Chapter upon its success, and upon having at its head a Most Excellent Companion, zealous and capable, and who has endeared himself not only to the members of Grand Chapter, but to all Companions throughout the jurisdiction.

Fraternally submitted,

W. G. REID,
Chairman.

It was moved by M. E. Comp. W. G. Reid, seconded by M. E. Comp. Hugh Murray, and

Resolved.—That the report of the Executive Committee on the Address of the M. E. Grand Z. be received and adopted. _

TESTIMONIAL TO M. E. COMP. WM. GIBSON.

At last annual Convocation the M. E. the Grand Z., acting on a resolution unanimously passed by Grand Chapter, appointed R. E. Comp. DeWitt H. Martyn, Grand H.; M. E. Comp. Hugh Murray, P.G.Z., and R. E. Comp. Geo. J. Bennett, Grand Scribe E., a committee to procure for M. E. Comp. William Gibson, Past Grand Z., a fitting testimonial in recognition of his services in the capacity of a member of the Grand Council and Grand First Principal for the previous two years. Before arrangements had been effected R. E. Comp. Martyn was summoned by a merciful Father to receive his heavenly reward, and a few months later the remaining members of the committee were enabled to carry out the expressed wish of Grand Chapter. The occasion was the

annual reunion of St. John's Chapter, No. 6, at Hamilton, the mother Chapter of the distinguished Companion whom Grand Chapter delighted to honor. There was a notable gathering of the Royal Craft, and many visitors were present from Toronto and other Masonic centres.

The Past Principals selected to preside on the occasion were: R. E. Comps. Hon. J. M. Gibson as Z., Donald McPhie as H., and M. E. Comp. Hon. Wm. Gibson as J. Twenty-seven years previously the same three Companions presided over the Chapter in the same positions, but in an actual capacity.

M. E. Companion Shaw, Grand Z., introduced the members of the committee, making deserved complimentary reference to the object of their mission. A massive silver tureen, tray and other pieces were then presented to the worthy Past Grand First Principal, and M. E. Companion Hugh Murray, on behalf of the committee and Grand Chapter, read the following address, which was exquisitely engrossed and illuminated and finished in morocco-bound covers. M. E. Companion Gibson made a feeling and eloquent reply.

*"To Most Excellent Companion William Gibson, Past Grand Z.
of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada:*

"Most Excellent Sir and Companion,—At its last Convocation, upon your retiring from the office of Grand First Principal of Grand Chapter, your Companions decided to mark the esteem in which you are held, and to acknowledge, however inadequately, the services rendered by you to the Royal Craft, by the presentation of a suitable testimonial.

"In presenting for your acceptance this set of silver, Grand Chapter accompanies it with the assurance that you retire from the highest office in Capitular Masonry with the love and admiration of every member of the Order. The courtesy shown by you upon all occasions, in your intercourse with individual Companions, and subordinate Chapters, was equalled only by the kind and considerate manner in which you presided over the annual Convocations of the supreme body.

"Kind and courteous always, yet with dignity and firmness you ruled Grand Chapter, giving the greatest latitude in debate

consistent with the prompt discharge of business, and bringing to the consideration of every question cautious care and mature deliberation.

“It must be gratifying to you to know that the term of two years, during which you have presided over Grand Chapter, was the most successful in its history. In no other term of similar length was the number of initiates so large, or the financial affairs in so satisfactory a condition.

“The testimonial now presented to you is not to be understood by you, Most Excellent Sir, as a consent to your withdrawal from active participation in the affairs of this branch of Masonry, but is intended as a mark of the love which your brethren have for you personally, and as a recognition of the zealous service which you have rendered to Royal Arch Masonry.

“Your Companions hope to retain for very many years the advantage of your experience and sound common sense, and may He, without Whose divine approval all mundane gifts are valueless, keep every shadow of evil from the roof that shelters yourself and your loved ones, and cement this day between us an everlasting bond of affection which shall cease here only to be renewed within the Celestial Veil.”

Signed on behalf of Grand Chapter.

HUGH MURRAY, P.G.Z., Grand Treasurer.

GEORGE J. BENNETT, Grand Scribe E.

Hamilton, Dec. 10, 1903.

Committee.

COMMITTEE ON BENEVOLENCE.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. G. J. Bennett, seconded by R. E. Comp Wm. Roaf, and

Resolved,—That R. E. Comp. J. S. Dewar, London, be continued a member of the Committee on Benevolence for the term of three years.

The motion being put to Grand Chapter, it was declared carried unanimously.

The following Companions comprise the Committee on Benevolence, and are members of the Executive Committee of Grand Chapter for their respective terms:

R. E. Comp. J. B. Nixon, Toronto,	retires in	1905
M. E. Comp. J. E. Harding, Lindsay,	“	1906
R. E. Comp. J. S. Dewar, London,	“	1907

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The election of officers was then proceeded with. The M. E. the Grand Z. having appointed R. E. Comps. J. B. Nixon, J. D. McIntosh and Ed. Worth scrutineers of the ballot, the results of the elections were declared as follows:

M. E. Comp. Abraham Shaw, Kingston,	Grand Z.
R. E. Comp. William Roaf, K.C., Toronto,	Grand H.
R. E. Comp. John Leslie, Winnipeg,	Grand J.

Grand Chapter was then called off for the space of fifteen minutes to enable the districts to select their Grand Superintendents for the ensuing year.

Grand Chapter resumed labor, when the following nominations were submitted to the M. E. the Grand Z., who was pleased to approve in each case, and the selections were confirmed.

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

	Ex. Comp.		St. Clair	Dist.	No.	
		Robert H. Revell, Windsor,	London	"	"	1
	"	J. B. Simpson, Sarnia,	London	"	"	2
	"	M. McCormack, Brantford,	Wilson	"	"	3
	"	Henry Mahoney, Guelph,	Wellington	"	"	4
	"	Geo. Sitzer, Milton,	Hamilton	"	"	5
	"	R. J. Cooper, M.D., Seaforth,	Huron	"	"	6
	"	J. C. Eccles, Dunnville,	Niagara	"	"	7
V.	"	Henry T. Smith, Toronto,	Toronto	"	"	8
R.	"	W. J. Hallett, Barrie,	Georgian	"	"	9
	"	John M. Shaw, M.D., Keene,	Ontario	"	"	10
	"	J. A. Phillips, Belleville,	Pr. Edward	"	"	11
	"	W. K. Farlinger, Morrisburg,	St. Lawrence	"	"	12
	"	Robt. Dodds, Almonte,	Ottawa	"	"	13
	"	Richd. Roberts, Garden River,	Algoma	"	"	14
V.	"	W. Braden, Winnipeg,	Manitoba	"	"	15
V.	"	J. W. Prescott, Vancouver,	British Col.	"	"	16
	"	E. L. Becker, Medicine Hat,	Alberta	"	"	17
V.	"	Rev. C. A. Procnier, Revelstoke,	Kootenay	"	"	18

The election of Grand officers was then resumed, with the following results:

R.	E. Comp.	Geo. J. Bennett, Toronto,	Grand Scribe E.
V.	"	William Hay, Renfrew,	Grand Scribe N.
M.	"	Hugh Murray, Hamilton,	Grand Treasurer.
	"	Oliver Ellwood, London,	Grand Prin. Sojr.
V.	"	W. J. A. Lake, Toronto,	Grand Registrar.
	"	J. H. Pritchard, Toronto,	Grand Janitor.

The following Companions were elected members of the Executive Committee for the ensuing year:

R. E. Comp.	Aubrey White,	.....	Toronto.
"	"	George Moore,	..... Hamilton.
"	"	James Bicknell,	..... Toronto.
"	"	J. Earl Halliwell,	..... Stirling.
"	"	W. S. R. Murch,	..... Kingston.

NEXT PLACE OF MEETING.

Toronto, Kingston and Niagara Falls were put in nomination for the next annual convocation. Toronto was declared to be the choice of Grand Chapter by a large majority.

VOTE OF THANKS.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. Halliwell, seconded by R. E. Comp. Leslie, and

Resolved,—That the cordial thanks of this Grand Chapter are due and are hereby tendered to the Toronto Masonic Hall Trust for the use of the rooms, and to the Companions of the Toronto Chapters, for their kindly attention and fraternal reception of the officers and members of Grand Chapter, as well as for the arrangements made for the Forty-Sixth Annual Convocation of this Grand Body.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

The following notice of an amendment to the Constitution was received from R. E. Companion D. F. MacWatt.

That at next annual Convocation he would move that Section 15 of the Constitution be amended by adding after the word "officers" in the eleventh line the following: "The five Companions nominated for the Executive Committee who obtain the highest number of votes cast in the ballot shall be declared duly elected. Each Companion shall vote for five nominated Companions, otherwise his ballot shall be void."

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS.

M. E. Comp. A. Shaw, Grand Z., assisted by M. E. Comp. W. G. Reid, then proceeded with the installation

and investiture of the newly elected officers of Grand Chapter, who were proclaimed and saluted with the usual honors.

APPOINTED OFFICERS.

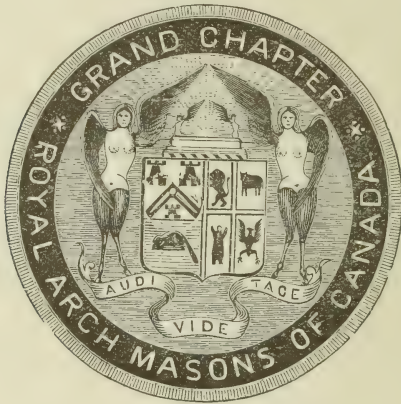
The following Companions were subsequently appointed by the M. E. the Grand Z. to office in Grand Chapter :

	E. Comp.	William Rankin, Napanee;	Grand Senior Sojourner
	" "	Arch. McLaren, Winnipeg,	" Junior "
R.	" "	J. B. Nixon, Toronto,	" Lecturer
	" "	Wm. Dawson, Parkhill,	" Sword Bearer
	" "	Geo. Massey, Chatham,	" Master of 1st Veil
	" "	Rich'd. Bunt, Kingston,	" Master of 2nd Veil
	" "	John MacKay, Renfrew,	" Master of 3rd Veil
	" "	Fred W. Harcourt, Toronto.	" Master of 4th Veil
	" "	Thos. Smith, Hamilton,	" Standard Bearer
	" "	Thos. Dowell, Brockville,	" Dir. of Ceremonies
	" "	John Drew, Toronto,	" Organist
	" "	W. H. Garrioch, Ottawa,	" Pursuivant
	" "	W. A. Wilson, London,	" Steward
	" "	William Fisher, Harriston,	" "
	" "	F. H. Lee, Southampton,	" "
	" "	D. Ross, Welland,	" "
	" "	J. T. Lovell, North Bay,	" "
	" "	W. J. Noble, Port Hope,	" "
	" "	W. H. Demuth, Port Arthur,	" "
	" "	F. M. Cowperthwaite, Vancouver,	" "
	" "	Geo. T. Bragg, Edmonton,	" "
	" "	W. B. Tomlinson, Simcoe,	" "

The M. E. Grand Z. further appointed the following undermentioned Companions on the Executive Committee for the year :

R. E. Comp.	Wm. Forbes	Grimsby
"	D. F. MacWatt	Sarnia
"	W. T. Toner	Collingwood
"	D. H. McIntosh	Carleton Place
"	Wm. Walker	Toronto

The labors of Grand Chapter being ended, it was closed in **Ample Form**, at 6.30 p.m.



Geo. J. Brunch

Grand Scribe E.

TORONTO, January 27th, 1904.

CHAPTER RETURNS, 31ST DECEMBER, 1903.

No.	Name of Chapter.	Where Held.	Regular Convocation.	First Principal Z.	Scribe E.	Admissions.	Joinings.	Restorations.	Withdrawals.	Suspensions.	Deaths.	Members.	Increase.
1	Ancient Front. & Caty	Kingston	Third Friday	J. A. Minnes.	Wm. Jackson	3			4	1	1	66	
2	The Hiram	Hamilton	Fourth Friday	Geo. H. Lanigan	Fred Walter	33		1	3		1	230	30
3	St. John's	London	Fourth Wednesday	John H. Wilson	Oliver Ellwood	36	1	3	3	12	2	222	23
4	St. And. & St. John's.	Toronto	Third Friday	W. H. Blight	Geo. A. Gribble	7					2	120	5
5	St. George's.	London	Fourth Friday	A. G. Stephens	Chas. C. Reed	10	1	1	3	9	3	146	6
6	St. John's	Hamilton	Third Thursday	Edward Porter	W. J. McAllister	18	1	2	3	5	6	216	7
7	The Morra	Belleville	First Tuesday	W. S. Morden	Wm. McKeown	1					2	98	
8	King Solomon's	Toronto	Fourth Tuesday	Wm. Cooper	John Roberts	6		1	4	9	5	156	13
15	Wawanosh	Samia	Second Friday	Geo. P. Wenino	W. A. Wiggins	15	2		6		1	177	14
16	Carleton	Ottawa	Third Friday	H. V. Pain.	W. G. S. Reynolds	11	3	1	2		1	95	12
18	Oxford	Woodstock	Third Monday	Geo. H. Cheyne	H. A. Biggins	5			2			73	2
19	Mount Moriah	St. Catharines	Friday o. or b. f. m.	S. P. Gourlay	A. T. Riddell	3	1	2			3	91	3
20	Mount Horeb	Brantford	First Friday	Walter Joyce	Thos. Kerr	7			1			70	6
22	Grenville	Prescott	Second Tuesday	W. A. Logan	Geo. Rook	6	1	1				61	8
23	Ezra	Simcoe	Thursday after f. m.	W. A. McIntosh	Jno. Porter	10			2			132	
24	Tecumseh	Stratford	Third Monday	S. J. Mallion	J. Russell Stuart	10	1	1				112	9
26	St. Mark's	Trenton	Tuesday on or after f. m.	Geo. R. Robertson	F. T. Marsh	9			3		2	44	4
27	Manitou	Collingwood	Friday o. or b. f. m	G. M. Aylesworth M.D.	F. B. Gregory	18			1	1	1	79	17
28	Pentalpha	Oshawa	Second Friday	J. F. Griereson	L. K. Merton	10			1			61	8
29	McCallum	Dunnville	Friday after f. m.	A. M. Clark	J. B. Sheehan	4						42	
30	Huron	Goderich	Third Tuesday	A. Lawson	Joseph Beck	2	1					73	1
31	Prince Edward.	Pictou	Monday on or after f. m.	R. E. Wright	J. L. Graydon	23			1	1	1	161	21
32	Waterloo	Galt	Second Monday	R. O. McCulloch	Chas. Blake	16				4		69	11
34	Signet	Barrie	Second Tuesday	Hampton E. Jory	W. J. Hallett	30	1		1			144	30
35	Keystone	Whitby	Third Friday	J. H. Nicholson	Joseph White	4			4			75	
36	Corinthian	Peterborough	Fourth Friday	W. E. Conway	Jno. Crane	6						76	3
37	Victoria	Port Hope	Second Friday	A. A. Smith	J. W. Sanders	12	1		1	6	2	65	51
40	Guelph	Guelph	Second Friday	W. A. Mahoney	Harry Mahoney	3			4			56	1
41	Harris	Ingersoll	Second Friday	B. Fatterson	J. F. Williams	1					2	50	8
44	Mount Sinai	Napanee	Wednesday after f. m.	E. J. Walters	J. G. Fennell	7	2				1	77	6
45	Excelsior	Colborne	First Tuesday	H. J. Maybaw	Jas. Thorne	8			2			40	
46	St. James	St. Mary's	Third Friday	A. Carnan	W. S. Sharp							77	
47	Wellington	Chatham	Second Thursday	Geo. B. Crumb	Alex. Grzorgy	9	1		3	4		73	3
48	St. John's	Colbourg	Friday o. or b. f. m.	F. A. Lount	Robert Buck	1		1	1	1		45	
50	Saugeen	Walkerton	Third Tuesday	John Grainger.	R. C. Cheswright	3	1					20	4

90 Golden	Rat Portage	Third Tuesday	T. W. Chapple	Wm. Robertson	11	21	43	11
91 Antiquity	Toronto	Third Monday	F. E. Luke	And. Ross	24	1	1	127
94 Midland	Lindsay	Third Thursday	W. R. Kelly	G. S. Patrick	23			77
95 Tuscan	Sudbury	Second Tuesday	J. S. Gill	G. E. Silvester	7		1	48
98 Vancouver	Vancouver	Second Wednesday	S. C. Sykes	J. W. Prescott	1	5	4	163
100 St. Lawrence	Brockville	Second Thursday	Geo. Gale	A. Graham, Jr.	11	1	4	61
101	Bois-eveuin	Second Wednesday	J. D. Baue	R. J. Willis	23	2	1	114
102 Algonquin	Sault St. Marie	Fourth Friday	R. G. Campbell	J. B. Way	1			22
103 St. John's	North Bay	First Friday	J. T. Lovell	E. S. Senkler	11	1		45
104 White Oak	Oakville	Second Tuesday	W. T. Marlatt	W. O. Joyce	4			58
106 Alberta	Calgary	First Tuesday	I. S. G. Van Wart	E. Nelson Brown	11	1		46
110	Warkworth	Wednesday after f. m.	J. Humphries	P. S. Ewing	6	1	2	85
111 Zeradatha	Morden	First Wednesday	I. Rutherford	H. Meikle	9			5
112 St. John's	Morrisburg	Second Tuesday	H. H. Bradfield	John Warren	2			48
113 Covenant	Cornwall	Third Wednesday	William Clayton	R. E. Snetsinger	1		1	7
114 Bonnechere	Renfrew	Third Monday	John MacKay	Wm. Hay	6			68
115 Brant	Pais	Monday o. or b. f. m.	W. J. Logie	W. M. Whitehead	1			6
116 Maple	Carleton Place	First Tuesday	J. A. McLaren	A. H. Edwards	10		1	40
117 Berlin	Berlin	Third Friday	Joseph H. Walker	Josiah Scully	1	2		57
118 North Star	Edmonton	Second Tuesday	Jno. W. Morris	C. H. Stuart Wade	5			39
119 King Cyrus	Leamington	Tuesday af. f. m.	R. Hillier	C. A. Edsall	3		1	20
120 Kootenay	Kaslo	Second Tuesday	H. Grigorch	E. E. Chipman	1			54
121 Wascana	Regina	Second Thursday	D. McIntosh	Frank Nash	1		2	36
122 Rossland	Rossland	First Tuesday	G. A. Mitchell	R. E. Plewman	14			38
123 Nelson	Nelson	Third Wednesday	Chas. H. Crandon	D. G. Kurtz	10	3		70
124 Westminster	N. Westminster	Fourth Thursday	J. B. Johnson	R. K. Chapman	3		1	51
125 Rocky Mountain	Fort Steele	Second Tuesday	Jas. A. Harvey	Donald MacKay	7			10
126 Assiniboia	Medicine Hat	First Friday	Thos. E. Carbery	Jas. Cook	1		3	35
127 Keystone	Nanaimo	Third Wednesday	Albert A. Davis	John F. Doyle	8	4	1	39
128 Revelstoke	Revelstoke	First Monday	Rev. C. A. Procmier	B. A. Lawson	6			23
129 Elliot	Mitchell	Second Tuesday af. f. m.	W. G. Hinds	E. A. Dunbar	2			47
130 Chantry	Southampton	Second Tuesday af. f. m.	W. H. Johns	T. H. Burns	4	1	2	28
131 Anabel	Warton	Tuesday b. f. m.	S. E. Foster	S. W. Cross	6			34
132 Leeds	Gananoque	Thursday o. or b. f. m.	R. G. Graham	J. E. Birmingham	5			38
133 St. Francis	Smith's Falls	First Wednesday	G. T. Martin	J. A. Houston	17		1	28
134 King Darius	Cannington	Second Friday af. f. m.	Joseph A. Kift	Wm. H. Rick	14	12		42
135 Succoth	Uxbridge	Wednesday af. f. m.	David A. Clark M.D.	Geo. H. Campell	4	11		26
U.D. King Edward	Nepawa	Monday af. f. m.	Geo. Mcl. Gibbs		13	14		15
		Second Wed. af. f. m.			10			27
					10			10
					915	119	29	147
					7676	781	43	

RECAPITULATION.

Number of Chapters on the Roll	1063	Forward	1063
" " Represented	147	Withdrawals	147
" " Registrations	91	Suspensions	91
" " Joinings	87	Deaths	87
" " Restorations	325		
		Net gain	738
		Total membership 31st Dec., 1903	7675

SUSPENSION, U. M. C.

No. 77. Wm. J. Damp.

SUSPENSIONS, N. P. D.

No. 1. James Ross.

No. 3. F. E. Davis, W. J. Johnstone, T. W. Routledge, A. Seabocker, F. Shapland, F. L. Wood, W. H. L. Bennett, A. H. Gammon, H. Gould, M. Procunier, B. C. Thomas, J. W. Wallace.

No. 5. J. W. Butler, C. A. Cline, C. Blythe, Wm. Cameron, J. R. Hammond, E. Blanchard, R. Black, S. F. Lawrason, W. McCoombs.

No. 6. W. R. Davis, J. T. Greenaway, H. C. Gwynn, W. J. Hall, J. McNichol, D. F. Patton.

No. 7. Lemuel Edwards, Jas. Whitton.

No. 8. Chas. Brown, Joseph Taylor, Edward Murphy, A. E. Kennedy, A. Weiser, D. C. Smillie, Angus McBean, Robt. Hutto, Jas. Thurston.

No. 28. Chas. Williamson.

No. 30. William Latham.

No. 32. Wm. Baird, A. Hawk, J. V. Landrith, E. J. Wilkins.

No. 37. H. C. Brindrith, L. H. Wilson, A. A. Adams, W. U. Runnalls, C. D. O'Brien, E. J. Millson.

No. 47. L. F. Wilson, W. H. Bradley, J. H. Armstrong, D. W. B. Spry.

No. 48. C. H. Bowen.

No. 53. John McDonald, A. E. Fitzgerald, Robt. Palmer, C. E. Kester.

No. 54. Thos. Wilson, J. Deyell.

No. 59. J. L. Carnegie, Thos. Berney, G. A. Allen, W. L. McKenzie, W. L. Perkins, A. H. Swarts, Sam Prichard, C. R. McWilliams, G. Austin.

No. 66. T. C. Bruce.

No. 73. Jas. Thompson, W. E. Smith, John Stalker, Andrew Kennedy.

No. 79. Jas. Bailie.

- No. 91. Telfer J. Norman, John Sheridan.
No. 95. Wm. Ramsay, F. A. Lucas.
No. 100. Fred Kuhn, Wm. Simpson, D. W. Ross, J. H. Todd.
No. 113. R. T. Nicholson.
No. 116. Thos. Fraser, John C. McNie.
No. 123. G. L. Lennox, R. S. Kinghorn.

RESTORATIONS.

- No. 2. W. S. Dodds.
No. 3. C. C. Gibson, C. J. Mills, M. Baldwin.
No. 5. Wilson Armitage.
No. 6. H. O. Sontag, J. H. Wynn.
No. 8. Hugh Wilson.
No. 16. D. N. McDonald.
No. 19. Arthur Clement, Wm. Campbell.
No. 22. Walter Hatley.
No. 24. N. L. Lorimer.
No. 48. W. H. Davidson.
No. 52. Jas. T. Black, J. S. Hewson, Jas. Haddock, J. T. Hurst.
No. 66. F. G. Neelin.
No. 67. John Connell.
No. 70. Wellington B. Gunter.
No. 71. Marwood Barrett, Samuel L. Lawlor, Horatio Y. Pickering.
No. 76. Percy Lyon.
No. 77. Herb. Prior.
No. 80. Fletcher Shaw.
No. 91. J. B. Hannah.
No. 103. H. A. West.





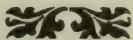
M. EX. COMPANION

JOHN J. MASON

Past Grand Z.

DIED 15th JUNE, 1903

HAMILTON





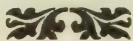
R. EX. COMPANION

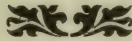
DeWitt H. Martyn, M.D.

Grand H.

DIED 19th JULY, 1903

KINCARDINE





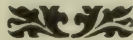
R. EX. COMPANION

John Creasor, K.C.

Past Grand Superintendent

DIED 10th MARCH, 1903

OWEN SOUND





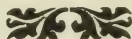
R. EX. COMPANION

John M. Clement

Past Grand Superintendent

DIED 24th APRIL, 1903

NIAGARA





R. EX. COMPANION

William G. Coulter

Past Grand Superintendent

DIED 20th FEBRUARY, 1903

PORT HOPE





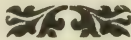
V. EX. COMPANION

HON. LACHLAN McCALLUM

Past Grand Sword Bearer

DIED 13th JANUARY, 1903

DUNNVILLE



Deaths

No. of Chap.	NAMES.	DATE.
1	James Shannon	8th August, 1903
2	Chas. Vosper	5th August, 1903
3	Joseph Hook	4th January, 1903
3	Andrew McCormack	27th September, 1903
4	Thos. E. Vanburg	5th March, 1903
4	Joseph Tomlinson	1st December, 1903
5	D. Schnaitzer	28th April, 1903
5	H. Waterman	15th July, 1903
5	I Waterman	18th July, 1903
6	William Pearce	12th March, 1903
6	James C. Taylor	28th March, 1903
6	J. J. Mason	15th June, 1903
6	D. M. Oliver	21st September, 1903
6	Wm. Clear	26th October, 1903
6	Wm. Forrest	13th August, 1903
7	Wm. Docter	5th January, 1903
7	Donald Urquhart	17th December, 1903
8	John D. King	December, 1902
8	Jas. A. Sloan	1st June, 1903
8	Richd. Hueston	21st July, 1903
8	John Patton	7th January, 1903
8	Jas. Norris	11th June, 1903
15	Norman Perks	17th September, 1903
16	H. J. Cole	17th February, 1903
18	Geo. White	1st April, 1903
19	John A. Graham	22nd November, 1903
19	Lucius S. Oille	15th August, 1903
19	N. A. Lindsay	17th September, 1903
24	Chas. Bews	14th July, 1903
26	Henry W. Day	11th January, 1903
26	Geo. B. Bleecker	10th July, 1903
27	W. R. Anderson	24th November, 1903
29	Lachlan McCallum	13th January, 1903
29	Thos. Turner	26th July, 1903
29	Wm. Hutchinson	19th September, 1903
29	John Parry	18th November, 1903
30	F. J. T. Nafel	14th November, 1903
31	J. N. Gilbert	22nd September, 1903
36	Geo. W. Hall	3rd July, 1903
36	John Fanning	22nd November, 1903
37	Geo. Reading	26th December, 1903
37	Wm. G. Coulter	20th February, 1903
40	G. R. Bruce	16th February, 1903

Deaths

No. of Chap.	NAMES.	DATE.
40	James Innes	16th July, 1903
44	Thos. E. Anderson	25th July, 1903
52	W. R. Brown.....	February, 1903
52	H. McKittrick	December, 1903.....
52	W. J. Neilson	December, 1903.....
52	J. A. Carley	July, 1903
53	Oliver Simmons	11th November, 1903
54	H. A. McIntyre	10th January, 1903
54	F. Cantello.....	29th April, 1903.....
54	J. Yorker	21st November, 1903
55	Jno. M. Clement	24th April, 1903
56	John Creasor	10th March, 1903
57	J. Barnhardt	16th April, 1903
61	Jas. A. Scott	13th February, 1903
62	Jas. E. Hopkings.....	November, 1903.....
63	DeWitt H. Martyn	19th July, 1903
69	J. J. Mason.....	15th June, 1903
70	Samuel Bridgland	6th May, 1903
76	Jas. McGarry.....	13th August, 1903
77	Sam. E. Guest	2nd May, 1903
79	G. G. Gillean.....	.....
79	Thos. B. Taylor.....	30th April, 1903
79	R. A. Hunter	18th May, 1903
80	T. M. White	27th February, 1903
81	Thos. Arnold	July, 1903
81	Wm. McDonald.....	December, 1903.....
88	John H. McVean	1st Febrdary, 1903
95	Hugh Kerr.....	12th March, 1903
100	G. W. Baker	September, 1903
101	Geo. C. Hill	29th August, 1903.....
102	T. J. McCort	5th February, 1903.....
102	Edw'd Biggings.....	10th July, 1903
106	John P. de Sousa.....	9th February, 1903
106	Tom Brindle.....	18th December, 1903
110	R. P. Hurlbut	22nd October, 1903
110	Chas. Loutitt .....	.....
116	Robt. Story.....	6th May, 1903
119	Philip H. Martin.....	25th November, 1903
121	Martin Kennedy	2nd April, 1903
121	William MacIvor.....	9th April, 1903
122	Wm. R. Jean	17th January, 1903
122	Fred'k Burrough	July, 1903
126	Geo. Noble.....	29th November, 1903

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

R. E. Comp. William Roaf, K.C., Toronto, President.

BY VIRTUE OF OFFICE.

M. E. Comp.	Donald Ross	Toronto
" "	Robert Hendry, Jr.	Kingston
" "	J. Ross Robertson	Toronto
" "	J. E. Harding	Lindsay
" "	M. Walsh	Ingersoll
" "	W. G. Reid	Hamilton
" "	Wm. Gibson	Beamsville
" "	Henry Robertson	Collingwood
" "	Kivas Tully	Toronto
" "	Hugh Murray	Hamilton
R. "	John Leslie	Winnipeg

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

R. Ex. Comp.	St. Clair	Dist.	No.	I
Robert H. Revell, Windsor,	London	"	"	2
J. B. Simpson, Sarnia,	Wilson	"	"	3
M. McCormack, Brantford,	Wellington	"	"	4
Henry Mahoney, Guelph,	Hamilton	"	"	5
Geo. Sitzler, Milton,	Huron	"	"	6
R. J. Cooper, M.D., Seaforth,	Niagara	"	"	7
J. C. Eccles, Dunnville,	Toronto	"	"	8
Henry T. Smith, Toronto,	Georgian	"	"	9
W. J. Hallett, Barrie,	Ontario	"	"	10
John M. Shaw, M.D., Keene,	Pr. Edward	"	"	11
J. A. Phillips, Belleville,	St. Lawrence	"	"	12
W. K. Farlinger, Morrisburg,	Ottawa	"	"	13
Robt. Dodds, Almonte,	Algoma	"	"	14
Richd. Roberts, Garden River,	Manitoba	"	"	15
W. Braden, Winnipeg,	British Col.	"	"	16
J. W. Prescott, Vancouver,	Alberta	"	"	17
E. L. Becker, Medicine Hat,	Kootenay	"	"	18
Rev. C. A. Procnier, Revelstoke,				

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS.

R. E. Comp.	Geo. J. Bennett, Toronto,	Grand Scribe E.
" "	William Hay, Renfrew,	Grand Scribe N.

ELECTED BY GRAND CHAPTER.

R. E. Comp.	Aubrey White,	Toronto.
" "	George Moore,	Hamilton.
" "	James Bicknell,	Toronto.
" "	J. Earl Halliwell,	Stirling.
" "	W. S. R. Murch,	Kingston.

APPOINTED BY GRAND Z.

R. E. Comp.	Wm. Forbes	Grimsby
"	" D. F. MacWatt	Sarnia
"	" W. T. Toner	Collingwood
"	" R. H. McIntosh	Carleton Place
"	" Wm. Walker	Toronto

SUB-COMMITTEES.

GRAND Z'S ADDRESS.

M. E. Comps. Hugh Murray, Chairman ; J. Ross Robertson, J. E. Harding, R. Hendry, Jr., Kivas Tully, Donald Ross, H. Robertson, M. Walsh, W. G. Reid and Wm. Gibson.

BENEVOLENCE.

M. E. Comp. J. E. Harding, Chairman ; R. E. Comps. J. S. Dewar and J. B. Nixon.

AUDIT AND FINANCE.

R. E Comps. William Walker, Chairman ; R. E. Cooper, J. B. Simpson, J. C. Eccles, Ja. Philips, H. T. Smith, W. Braden, J. W. Prescott.

GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS.

R. Ex. Comps. D. F. MacWatt, Chairman ; J. Earl Haliwell, W. S. R. Murch, Jas. Bicknell, Geo. Sitzer, W. J. Hallett.

WARRANTS.

R. E. Comps. Geo. Moore, Chairman ; R. H. Revell, M. McCormack, H. Mahony, C. A. Procnier, J. M. Shaw, W. K. Farlinger, Robert Dodds, R. Roberts, E. L. Becker.

CONDITION OF CAPITULAR MASONRY.

R. E. Comps. Aubrey White, Chairman ; R. H. McIntosh, Wm. Hay, W. T. Toner, John Leslie, Wm. Forbes.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

R. E. Comp. Geo. J. Bennett.

LIST OF CHAPTERS—BY DISTRICTS.

ST. CLAIR DISTRICT, NO. 1.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. Robert H. Revell, Windsor.

No. 47, Wellington	Chatham	No. 80, Ark	Windsor
" 71, Pr. of Wales.	Amherstburg	" 88, Macnabb	Dresden
" 73, Erie	Ridgetown	" 119, King Cyrus	Leamington

LONDON DISTRICT, NO. 2.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. J. B. Simpson, Sarnia.

No. 3, St. John's	London	No. 54, Palestine	St. Thomas
" 5, St. George's	London	" 74, Beaver	Strathroy
" 15, Wawanosh	Sarnia	" 81, Aylmer	Aylmer
" 53, Bruce	Petrolia	" 87, Minnewawa	Parkhill

WILSON DISTRICT, NO. 3.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. M. McCormack, Brantford.

No. 18, Oxford	Woodstock	No. 41, Harris	Ingersoll
" 20, Mount Horeb...	Brantford	" 115, Brant	Paris
" 23, Ezra	Simcoe		

WELLINGTON DISTRICT, NO. 4.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. Henry Mahoney, Guelph.

No. 32, Waterloo	Galt	No. 83, Ionic	Orangeville
" 40, Guelph	Guelph	" 117, Berlin	Berlin
" 67, Enterprise	Harriston		

HAMILTON DISTRICT, NO. 5.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. Geo. Sitzer, Milton.

No. 2, The Hiram	Hamilton	No. 75, St. Clair.....	Milton
" 6, St. John's	Hamilton	" 104, White Oak	Oakville

HURON DISTRICT, NO. 6.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. R. E. Cooper, M.D., Seaforth.

No. 24, Tecumseh	Stratford	No. 66, The Malloch....	Seaforth
" 30, Huron.....	Goderich	" 84, Lebanon	Wingham
" 46, St. James	St. Marys	" 129, Elliot	Mitchell
" 50, Saugeen	Walkerton	" 130, Chantry	Southampton
" 63, Havelock	Kincardine		

NIAGARA DISTRICT, NO. 7.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. J. C. Eccles, Dunnville.

No. 19, Mt. Moriah	St. Cath's	No. 64, Willson	Welland
" 29, McCallum.....	Dunnville	" 69, Grimsby	Grimsby
" 55, Niagara	Niagara	" 76, Mt. Nebo..	Niagara Fs., S.
" 57, King Hiram..	Pt. Colborne		

TORONTO, DISTRICT, NO. 8.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. Henry T. Smith, Toronto.

No. 4, S. And. & St. John.	Toronto	No. 65, St. Paul's.....	Toronto
" 8, King Solomon's ..	Toronto	" 77, Occident	"
" 60, Doric	Newmarket	" 79, Orient	"
" 62, York	Eglinton	" 91, Antiquity.....	"
		" 135, Succoth	Uxbridge

GEORGIAN DISTRICT, NO. 9.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. W. J. Hallett, Barrie.

No. 27, Manitou	Collingwood	No. 86, Macpherson	Meaford
" 34, Signet	Barrie	" 103, St. John's	North Bay
" 56, Georgian.....	Owen Sound	" 131, Amabel	Wiarton
" 70, Grand River..	Bracebridge		

ONTARIO DISTRICT, NO. 10.

Grand Superintendent--R. E. Comp. John M. Shaw, M.D., Keene.

No. 28, Pentalpha	Oshawa	No. 48, St. John's	Cobourg
" 35, Keystone	Whitby	" 94, Midland	Lindsay
" 36, Corinthian	Peterboro'	" 110, Warkworth . . .	Warkworth
" 37, Victoria	Port Hope	" 134, King Darius . .	Cannington
" 45, Excelsior	Colborne		

PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT, NO. 11.

Grand Superintendent--R. E. Comp. J. A. Phillips, Belleville.

No. 7, The Moira	Belleville	No. 44, Mount Sinai	Napanee
" 26, St. Mark's	Trenton	" 72, Keystone	Stirling
" 31, Prince Edward . . .	Picton		

ST. LAWRENCE DISTRICT, NO. 12.

Grand Superintendent--R. E. Comp. W. K. Farlinger, Morrisburg.

No. 1, Ancient Frontenac and Cataraqui . .	Kingston	No. 100, St. Lawrence . .	Brockville
" 22, Grenville	Prescott	" 112, St. John's	Morrisburg
" 59, Sussex	Brockville	" 113, Covenant	Cornwall
" 68, Maitland	N. Augusta	" 132, Leeds	Gananoque
		" 133, St. Francis . .	Smiths Falls

OTTAWA DISTRICT, NO. 13.

Grand Superintendent--R. E. Comp. Robert Dodds, Almonte.

No. 16, Carleton	Ottawa	No. 114, Bonnechere . . .	Renfrew
" 58, Pembroke	Mattawa	" 116, Maple	Carleton Place
" 61, Granite	Almonte		

ALGOMA DISTRICT, NO. 14.

Grand Superintendent--R. E. Comp. Richard Roberts, Garden River.

No. 82, Shuniah	Port Arthur	No. 95, Tuscan	Sudbury
" 90, Golden	Rat Portage	" 102, Algonquin . .	Sault Ste Marie

MANITOBA DISTRICT, NO. 15.

Grand Superintendent--R. E. Comp. Wm. Braden, Winnipeg.

No. 52, Pr. Rupert	Winnipeg	No. 111, Zeredatha	Morden
" 101, Corinthian	Boissevain	" U.D., King Edward . .	Neepawa

BRITISH COLUMBIA DISTRICT, NO. 16.

Grand Superintendent--R. E. Comp. J. W. Prescott, Vancouver.

No. 98, Vancouver	Vancouver	No. 127, Keystone	Nanaimo
" 124, Westminster . . .	New Westminster		

ALBERTA DISTRICT, NO. 17.

Grand Superintendent--R. E. Comp. E. L. Becker, Medicine Hat.

No. 106, Alberta	Calgary	No. 121, Wascana	Regina
" 118, North Star	Edmonton	" 126, Assiniboia . .	Medicine Hat

KOOTENAY DISTRICT, NO. 18.

Grand Superintendent--R. E. Comp. Rev. C. A. Procunier, Revelstoke.

No. 120, Kootenay	Kaslo	No. 125, Rocky Mountain .	Fort Steele
" 122, Rossland	Rossland	" 128, Revelstoke	Revelstoke
" 123, Nelson	Nelson		

CAPITULAR STATISTICS.

GRAND CHAPTERS.	Chapters.	Members.	Exaltations.	Admissions & Restorations.	Dimissions.	Expulsions.	Suspensions.	Sus. for Non pay't dues.	Deaths.
Alabama, 1902	39	1444	217	90	51	0	0	43	18
Arizona, 1902	6	368	40	11	5	0	0	10	9
Arkansas, 1902	69	2203	174	79	36	3	3	87	39
California, 1903	71	7280	730	208	92	0	1	47	138
Canada, 1903	108	7676	915	148	147	0	....	92	86
Colorado, 1902	34	2906	191	77	40	1	....	19	39
Connecticut, 1902	40	6247	372	21	65	0	1	118	113
Delaware, 1903	4	780	62	0	7	0	0	10	10
Dist. Columbia, 1903 .	11	2841	234	61	45	0	9	51	51
Florida, 1902	20	824	79	21	15	0	....	26	13
Georgia, 1903	117	4179	237	121	131	0	....	83	57
Illinois, 1902	185	18959	1532	254	281	5	....	258	261
Indiana, 1902	102	7873	622	138	171	2	9	82	143
Indian Territory, 1903.	33	1536	211	37	44	1	....	9	8
Iowa, 1902	127	8626	584	157	220	2	....	97	117
Kansas, 1902	81	5620	422	131	122	4	10	73	67
Kentucky, 1902	81	4187	408	78	86	0	....	110	67
Louisiana, 1903	22	1511	175	20	32	1	....	16	25
Maine, 1903	56	7287	493	33	56	1	0	42	114
Maryland, 1902	21	2244	240	30	31	0	....	17	29
Massachusetts, 1901 .	76	16029	917	95	146	0	0	79	259
Michigan, 1903	138	14984	964	128	169	5	....	158	202
Minnesota, 1902	62	5606	373	77	100	0	0	52	69
Mississippi, 1903	69	2443	248	61	63	0	2	57	57
Missouri, 1902	98	7939	677	179	145	0	0	162	118
Montana, 1901	15	888	65	14	25	0	1	17	12
Nebraska, 1902	53	3143	168	65	67	0	....	45	41
Nevada, 1902	7	309	15	7	3	0	0	2	6
New Brunswick, 1902 .	9	473	26	4	9	0	....	5	6
New Hampshire, 1902 .	25	3678	115	9	27	0	0	28	60
New Jersey, 1902	38	3739	307	34	37	0	....	81	50
New Mexico, 1902	10	501	49	15	7	0	....	11	7
New York, 1903	194	24915	2307	322	183	3	0	442	379
North Carolina, 1902 .	19	767	124	28	21	0	0	32	13
North Dakota, 1902 ..	14	1103	99	13	26	1	....	9	6
Nova Scotia, 1902	14	744	68	5	21	0	0	0	8
Ohio, 1902	154	18212	1534	460	218	9	3	476	263
Oregon, 1903	25	1799	210	39	34	0	1	15	27
Pennsylvania, 1902 .	124	20141	1400	151	107	....	....	201	363
Quebec, 1903	12	745	107	19	18	0	....	1	10
Rhode Island, 1902 .	10	2809	157	57	3	0	0	24	57
South Carolina, 1902 .	20	818	98	14	21	0	....	22	12
South Dakota, 1902 .	28	1723	134	37	40	0	....	11	17
Tennessee, 1903	69	2919	230	46	69	2	7	50	56
Texas, 1902	156	7868	207	206	314	7	....	163	118
Vermont, 1903	28	3332	209	89	94	0	....	4	54
Virginia, 1902	43	3398	311	56	80	2	0	46	57
Washington, 1903	23	1797	199	79	26	0	....	14	26
West Virginia, 1902 .	27	2533	330	29	31	0	....	34	27
Wisconsin, 1903	76	6842	475	116	107	1	....	34	82
Gen. Gr. Chapter, 1900.	21	1334	66	31	16	1	0	19	19
	2884	258122	20067	4200	3904	51	47	3584	3

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES AND GRAND SECRETARIES.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

GRAND SECRETARIES.

At Grand Chapter of Canada.			Jurisdiction.		From Grand Chapter of Canada.			Name.		Address.	
R. E.	Comp.	W. B. McArthur	Ottawa	Alabama	E. Comp.	Lew Lazarus	Birmingham	George A. Beauchamp	Montgomery		
"	"	C. A. Humber	Goderich	Arizona	R. E.	John M. Ormsby	Tuscan	George J. Roskrige	Tuscan		
"	"	John McLaren	Orangeville	Arkansas	"	S. A. Pernot	Van Buren	John C. Bone	Batesville		
"	"	Samuel Wesley	Barrie	California	M. E.	N. W. Spaulding	Oakland	Wm. A. Davies	San Francisco		
"	"	A. McGinnis	Belleville	Colorado	"	Lawrence N. Greenleaf	Denver	W. T. Todd	Denver		
"	"	A. Shaw	Kingston	Connecticut	E.	Geo. N. Delap	Hartford	J. McCormick	Hartford		
"	"	T. C. MacNabb	Chatham	Delaware	E.	George F. Young	Washington	James H. Price	Washington		
M. E.	"	Hugh Murray	Hamilton	District of Columbia	M. E.	Joseph S. McCoy	Washington	A. W. Johnston	Washington		
"	"	"	"	England	"	"	"	"	"		
"	"	A. B. Munson	London	Florida	"	Z. T. Merritt	Buena Vista	Sir Ed. Letchworth	F. M. Hall, London		
R. E.	"	Allan Cameron	M.D. Owen Sound	Georgia	"	W. A. Graham	Fort Gaines	W. P. Webster	Jacksonville		
"	"	Wm. Forbes	Grimsby	Illinois	"	C. H. Patton	Mt. Vernon	Fort Gaines	Macon		
"	"	George Waugh	Stratford	Indiana	"	Thos. R. Marshall	Columbia City	Gil. W. Barnard	Chicago		
"	"	Ed. Worth	Kent Bridge	Indian Territory	"	John Rennie	Lehigh	Calvin W. Prather	Indianapolis		
"	"	C. W. Postlethwaite	Toronto	Iowa	"	J. M. Murray	Ottumwa	Joseph S. Murrow	Atoka		
M. E.	"	Kivas Tully	Toronto	Ireland	"	J. H. Neilson	Dublin	Alf. Wingate	Des Moines		
R. E.	"	J. M. Gibson	Hamilton	Kansas	"	John R. McLaurin	Ellsworth	Henry E. Flavelle	F. M. Hall, Dublin		
"	"	Wm. Walker	Toronto	Kentucky	"	H. R. French	Mt. Sterling	W. M. Shaver	Topeka		
"	"	Robt. Hendry, Jr.	Kingston	Louisiana	"	And. Hero, Jr.	New Orleans	Henry B. Grant	Louisville		
"	"	B. Allen	Toronto	Maine	R. E.	Winfield S. Hinkley	Libson	Richard Lambert	New Orleans		
"	"	R. G. W. Conolly	Dunville	Maryland	"	J. M. Carter	Baltimore	Stephen Berry	Portland		
M. E.	"	John E. Harding	Lindsay	Massachusetts	"	Richard A. Atwood	Boston	John H. Miller	Baltimore		
"	"	"	"	Michigan	R. E.	"	"	J. Gilman Waite	Boston		
"	"	"	"	Minnesota	"	Andrew P. Swanstrom	St. Paul	Chas. A. Conover	Coldwater		
R. E.	"	J. A. Morton	Wingham	Mississippi	"	P. W. Rowland	Coffeeville	Thos. Montgomery	St. Paul		
"	"	Wm. Gibson	Beamsville	Missouri	"	Thos. R. Morrow	Kansas City	Fred Speed	Vicksburg		
"	"	"	"	Montana	"	"	"	W. H. Mayo	St. Louis		
M. E.	"	J. Ross Robertson	Toronto	Nebraska	"	W. T. Whitmarsh	Omaha	Cornelius Hedges	Helena		
"	"	H. M. Mowat	Brockville	Nevada	"	Frank Bell	Renol	Francis E. White	Omaha		
R. E.	"	James Sutherland	Woodstock	New Brunswick	"	R. Marshall	St. John, N. B.	C. N. Noteware	Carson City		
"	"	John S. Dewar	London	New Hampshire	"	Alpheus W. Baker	Lebanon	W. B. Wallace	St. John		
"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	Frank D. Woodbury	Concord		

R. E.	Comp.	J. McLean Stevenson	Barrie	New Jersey	R. E.	Comp.	James H. Clark	Comol	Chas. Belcher	Newark
"	"	William Rea	Ottawa	New Mexico	"	"	Marcus Eldodt	Santo Fe	Alpheus A. Keen	Albuquerque
M. E.	"	Henry Robertson	Collingwood	New South Wales	R. E.	"	Edward B. Cantine	Albany	Alf. J. Burbidge	Sydney
R. E.	"	John Leslie	Winnipeg	New York	"	"	Robert Fletcher	Wellington	Christopher G. Fox	Buffalo
"	"	James Wilson	Toronto	New Zealand	"	"	Charles C. Clarke	New Bern	H. J. Williams	Wellington
"	"	Wm. G. Bell	Winnipeg	North Carolina	M. E.	"	Geo. H. Keyes	Ellandale	Jas. C. Munds	Wilmington
"	"	Geo. Moore	Hamilton	Dakota	"	"	Neil McKelvie	Summerside	F. J. Thompson	Fargo
V. E.	"	Hugh A. Mackay	Berlin	Nova Scotia	R. E.	"	C. A. Woodward	Cleveland	D. H. Campbell	Halifax
R. E.	"	Wm. Roaf	Toronto	Ohio	"	"	Donald McKay	Portland	Edwin Hagenbuch	Urbana
"	"	D. F. McPhie	Hamilton	Oregon	R. E.	"	Thos. R. Patton	Philadelphia	James F. Robinson	Eugene
"	"	Donald MacWatt	Sarnia	Pennsylvania	M. E.	"	Will H. Whyte	Philadelphia	Charles Carey	Philadelphia
M. E.	"	M. Walsh	Ingersoll	Quebec	R. E.	"	W. R. Greene	Providence	Will H. Whyte	Montreal
R. E.	"	J. K. Kerr	Toronto	Rhode Island	"	"	Earl of Kintore	Providence	W. R. Greene	Providence
"	"	G. V. T. Greenhill	Windsor	Scotland	"	"	John R. Bellinger	London, Eng.	Robert S. Brown	Edinburgh
"	"	A. E. Cooper	London	South Carolina	R. E.	"	D. Carrigan	Bamberg	J. T. Barron	Columbia
"	"	H. H. Watson	Vancouver	Tennessee	"	"	Martin Bell	Hot Springs	Geo. A. Pettigrew	Flandau
"	"	E. T. Malone	Toronto	Texas	"	"	W. A. Scott	Paris	W. A. Clendenning	Nashville
"	"	J. B. Nixon	Toronto	Texas	"	"	C. W. Whitcomb	Floresville	John A. Bryan	Cleburne
M. E.	"	W. G. Reid	Toronto	Vermont	"	"	J. D'Amor Drew	Proctorville	Henry H. Ross	Burlington
R. E.	"	Alex. Patterson	Hamilton	Virginia	R. E.	"	E. L. Guey	Melbourne	John Braim	Melbourne
"	"		Toronto	Washington	"	"		Norfolk	James B. Blanks	Petersburg
"	"			West Virginia	R. E.	"	John A. Zorn	Wheeling	Yancey C. Blalock	Walla Walla
"	"	David Taylor	Ottawa	Wisconsin	M. E.	"	A. J. Wallace	Durant	Robt. C. Dunnington	Fairmont
"	"	Gavin Stewart	Woodstock		"	"			William W. Perry	Milwaukee

CHAIRMEN FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

<i>Jurisdiction.</i>	<i>Name.</i>	<i>Address.</i>	<i>Jurisdiction.</i>	<i>Name.</i>	<i>Address.</i>
Alabama	William V. Titcomb.	Anniston	Montana	Cornelius Hedges	Helena
Arizona	Charles D. Belden	Phoenix	Nebraska	Charles J. Phelps	Schuyler
Arkansas	Reuban J. Laughlin	Bentonville	Nevada	E. D. Vanderleeth	Carson City
California	William A. Davies	San Francisco	New Brunswick	None	None
Canada	George J. Bennett	Toronto	New Hampshire	Albert S. Wait	Newport
Colorado	Farnest LeN. Foster	Denver	New Jersey	Charles Belcher	Newark
Connecticut	John H. Barlow	Hartford	New Mexico	W. H. Seamon	El Paso
Delaware	Virginius V. Harrison	Wilmington	New South Wales	None	None
District of Columbia	Arvine W. Johnson	Washington	New York	M. I. Greenwood	Newark
England	None	None	New Zealand	None	None
Florida	Wilber P. Webster	Jacksonville	North Carolina	James Southgate	Durham
Georgia	A. M. Lambdin	Barnesville	North Dakota	None	None
Illinois	George W. Warvelle	Chicago	Nova Scotia	W. B. Alley	Truro
Indiana	Simon S. Johnson	Jeffersonville	Ohio	Graff M. Acklin	Toledo
Indian Territory	Joseph S. Murrow	Atoka	Oregon	John M. Hodson	Portland
Iowa	William F. Cleveland	Harlan	Pennsylvania	Michael W. Jacobs	Harrisburg
Ireland	None	None	Quebec	E. T. D. Chambers	Quebec
Kansas	W. M. Shaver	Topeka	Rhode Island	Henry W. Rugg	Providence
Kentucky	James W. Staton	Brooksville	Scotland	None	None
Louisiana	Herman C. Duncan	Alexandria	South Carolina	J. T. Barron	Columbia
Maine	Herbert Harris	Bangor	South Dakota	Louis J. Levoy	Webster
Maryland	Edward T. Schultz	Baltimore	Tennessee	J. H. McClister	Knoxville
Massachusetts	J. Gilman Waite	Boston	Texas	John L. Terrell	Terrell
Michigan	Clarence H. Leonard	Detroit	Vermont	Marsh O. Perkins	Windsor
Minnesota	Thomas Montgomery	St. Paul	Victoria	None	None
Mississippi	Phineas M. Savery	Tupelo	Virginia	Charles A. Nesbitt	Richmond
Missouri	William H. Mayo	St. Louis	Washington	Vancey C. Blalock	Walla Walla
			West Virginia	Hugh Sterling	Wheeling
			Wisconsin	William C. Swain	Milwaukee

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APPENDIX



....REPORT ON....

Foreign Correspondence

*To the M. E. the Grand Z., Officers and Members of the
Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.*

COMPANIONS,—

“What a fine speech our man gave us on the agricultural question,” said the election agent to the apparently absorbed farmer. “Aye,” the latter replied, “it was fine, but I’m thinkin’ a couple o’ days rain would do a sight more good.”

Enthusiasm and hope pervaded the addresses of Capitular rulers, the continent over. All is fair weather and easy sailing. The clouds, if any, are but specks on the bright canopy which smiles on the continued peace and progress of the Royal Arch. That it may be ever thus is the universal prayer, but the reviewer may reasonably be pardoned if, in presenting his report, he ventures a regret at the absence of showers that would assist to freshen and lend variety to what otherwise must appear dry and barren. Such as it is, however, the accompanying work is offered for charitable inspection.

PROCEEDINGS REVIEWED.

Alabama	1902	Louisiana	1903	North Carolina	1903
Arkansas	1902	Maine	1902	North Dakota	1903
Arizona	1902	Maryland	1902	Nova Scotia	1902
California	1903	Massachusetts	1902	Pennsylvania	1902
Colorado	1902	Michigan	1903	Quebec	1903
Connecticut	1903	Minnesota	1903	Rhode Island	1903
Delaware	1903	Mississippi	1903	South Carolina	1902
Dist. of Columbia	1902	Missouri	1903	South Dakota	1903
Florida	1903	Montana	1902	Tennessee	1903
Georgia	1903	Nebraska	1902	Texas	1902
Illinois	1903	Nevada	1903	Vermont	1903
Indiana	1903	New Brunswick	1902	Victoria	1902
Indian Territory	1903	New Hampshire	1903	Virginia	1902
Iowa	1903	New Jersey	1903	Washington	1903
Kansas	1903	New Mexico	1902	West Virginia	1902
Kentucky	1902	New York	1903	Wisconsin	1903

ALABAMA

Chapters . . 39

Members . . 1,444

Whether it concerned the Constitution of Alabama or the resurrected papyri of ancient Egypt, it was all the same to George Fleming Moore, M. E. Grand High Priest for the year of grace 1902. He was equally at home with both, and could quote at will. It will be understood, therefore, that the Companions assembled at the Seventy-sixth Annual Convocation in Montgomery on the 1st of December of that year were given something choice. He recalled the fact that John Murphy, then State Governor, was the first Grand Chapter ruler, and of those who succeeded him there were judges and other great men of the nation.

The State Archivist, in a very seductive letter, reminded him that a certain Ephraim Kirby, a judge in "territorial days," was General Grand High Priest, and suggested that Grand Chapter would be doing a graceful act in having the portrait of the long-deceased judge painted and handed over to the S. A., to be hung in the State Capitol. Grand Chapter later voted seventy-five dollars for this purpose.

The G. H. P. was much exercised over the criticism of a South Dakota correspondent who had seen fit to hold up an item of revenue under the head of "Dispensations," and hotly resented an implied accusation at some length, though it is just probable that not two out of his many hearers had ever heard of the incident.

He issued four dispensations for new Chapters, and two for reorganization of old ones, a fair indication that the Royal Craft is looking up in Alabama.

Reciprocity in the matter of jurisdiction with adjoining States was recommended and agreed to, and the Grand Secretary's salary was raised.

The G. H. P. informed Grand Chapter that the Committee on Work, with the aid of a skilful stenographer, who, of course, is a Companion, had prepared in cipher the ritual as instructed, etc., and further—

“The cipher used is identical with that employed for the purpose by the General Grand Chapter of the United States. The Right Ex. Gr. Secretary has sent out under proper safeguards sixty-eight copies of the ritual. It has been received with much satisfaction by the Chapters.

The Committee, it was added,

“Bestowed much time and labor on the ritual and are entitled to your thanks more especially as it was arranged and prepared by them at a loss in both time and money.

One cannot but be impressed with the zeal and industry revealed in the above. Moreover, the care displayed in distributing the results of this labor of love should command the admiration of all who fear the glance of a profane eye. Sixty-eight typewritten copies sent out under a guard, probably with fixed bayonets, though the record is modestly dumb on that point. But, alas! an ingenuous Finance Committee, which, by some strange oversight, had not been properly safeguarded, discloses among the expenditures:

“Printing rituals\$250 00.”

The proceedings proper embrace less than forty of the two hundred and forty-three pages included in the volume, Companion W. Y. Titcomb monopolizing the balance in an exhaustive and interesting review of forty-eight Grand Chapters. Nothing escapes his eagle eye. Four of his valuable pages are given to Canada for 1902. Our system of inspection appeals to him favorably.

Under Michigan, he quotes a proposed amendment to the regulations, which provides that “No member shall be permitted to dimit from the Chapter of which he is a member until he shall present a certificate from some Chapter that he has petitioned for membership and been elected therein,” and adds:

Whenever such rule prevails, the member may be a Mason all right, but he can not be a *Free* Mason, all the same.

Yet Companion Titcomb is an ardent advocate of dependent membership, which is a phase of compulsion that, to his view, does not interfere with the *freedom* of a Mason. Oh! consistency, thou art a jewel.

Charles R. Bricken, Luverne, Grand High Priest.

George A. Beauchamp, Montgomery, Grand Secretary.

ARIZONA

Chapters . . 6

Members . . 368

For the thirteenth time the Companions of that far-off land on the Mexican border, who are nobly striving to upbuild the Temple, met in Annual Convocation in the City of Phoenix on the 12th November, 1902.

The Grand Representatives present, among whom was our own Companion, John M. Ormsby, were lined up and received with the honors due to their ambassadorial position. He of Connecticut replied most effectively to the Grand High Priest's words of welcome.

In opening his address the latter referred to the serious illness of the Grand Captain of the Host, who was low with typhoid in an El Paso hospital.

He referred with pardonable pride to the good showing the Chapters had made during the year, and hinted at a probable addition to the roll in a distant section.

Referring to the Grand Representative appointments, he suggested a line for the consideration of those distinguished Companions.

“The office of Grand Representative is one of considerable honor, and I recommend that the Representatives of sister Grand Jurisdiction near this Grand Chapter try to make themselves useful, especially as follows: Let each Grand Representative correspond with the R.: E.: Grand Secretary of the Jurisdiction he represents, and thereby and in every other manner possible familiarize himself with the conditions and customs of the Royal Craft in that Jurisdiction. Let the Secretaries of our subordinate Chapters carefully examine the Sentinel's register at every convocation, personally meet and confer with every visitor from outside our own Jurisdiction, and if he learns that such visitor proposes to remain for any length of time in Arizona, so notify the Grand Representative of the Jurisdiction from which the visitor hails. Let it then be the duty of the Grand Representative to extend to the visiting Companion every courtesy and favor which Royal Arch Masonry enjoins or suggests.”

He called attention to the fact that while Arizona was following the ritualistic lead of California, there was a desire to adopt the work as approved by General Grand Chapter, and he urged those in authority to familiarize themselves with the latter.

“So as to be ready to fall in line, when the time shall seem opportune, with other Jurisdictions in an effort to secure absolute uniformity throughout the entire length and breadth of America.”

Notwithstanding that our good Companions across the border can claim but the lesser portion of this vast continent, how easily they fall into the notion that they own the entire lot:

“Upon his brow shame is ashamed to sit;
For 'tis a throne where honor may be crown'd
Sole monarch of the universal earth.”

In noticing the dependent membership legislation of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templars, he attributes it to the efforts of the Masons in the Western States, and adds:

“Happily for us, the regulation made practically no difference to the Chapters of Arizona, for with us Royal Arch Masonry has always stood on its own merits.”

In approving the action of the G. H. P., who issued a dispensation to enable an applicant to secure the degrees in less time than the law allows, the Jurisprudence Committee gave expression to its feelings:

“We are, however, of the opinion that no dispensation should be asked for by any Chapter when the only reason therefore is the desire of the candidate to take the Temple degrees or join the Shrine.”

The Committee on Finance sat down heavily on a resolution to the effect that \$150 be apportioned annually as a fund to defray the travelling expenses of the Grand High Priest, and that the Chapters visited pay the extra outlay:

“We believe that the honor of being elected M.: E.: Grand High Priest of this Grand Chapter should be sufficient honor, without any other fee or reward.”

M. E. Companion Frederick Sweet, the retiring

Grand High Priest, however, received his reward in the shape of a jewel of "pure gold and exquisite workmanship," and Charles Dwight Belden, who essayed for one brief period some years ago the reportorial faber, reigns in his stead. May he earn his reward likewise, as we truly believe he will.

"For blessings ever wait on virtuous deeds
And though a late, a sure reward succeeds."

Chas. D. Belden, Phoenix, Grand High Priest.

Geo. J. Roskrige, Tucson, Grand Secretary.

ARKANSAS

Chapters .. 69

Members .. 2,234

General Grand High Priest Taylor was a distinguished visitor at the Fifty-third Annual Convocation held in Little Rock on the 20th November, 1902. Grand Secretary Mayo of Missouri was another.

Grand High Priest Carter's address was mainly confined to a resume of his official actions. He mourned the death of Past Grand High Priest George Pressley Taylor, and also

"Right Excellent Companion R. J. Laughlin, Past Grand High Priest of Kentucky, who for a number of years has visited our Grand Chapter. We feel like claiming him as one of our own Past Grand Officers."

The lamented Companion was Arkansas' chairman of Foreign Correspondence, and we had come to regard him as their very own. The Committee on Memorials, however, informs us that he held the rank of Honorary Past Grand High Priest.

One new Chapter was organized by the G. H. P., at Stuttgart, and one dormant Chapter restored.

The candidate in Arkansas has a more nerve-shaking ordeal to undergo than he would have elsewhere, if one is to credit the statement of the G. H. P. in an account of one of his visitations:

“Conferred the Chapter Degrees on six candidates, and installed the High Priest of that Chapter, after which we were called on to participate in a bountiful banquet prepared by the six newly made Companions.”

The dispensing of liquor is a crime in Arkansas that cannot be condoned. The G. H. P. was asked whether a Companion engaged in selling whiskey could take a dimit from his Chapter and avoid any action on the part of the Chapter with reference to whiskey law, and he replied:

“No. He is amenable to the law, and the Chapter should enforce it.”

He was a diligent reader of the printed proceedings of other Grand Chapters, and observed “that Capitular Masonry is progressing in most all of the States and Territories of the Union, but I am proud to note that our Grand Jurisdiction is keeping pace with the leading States along this line.”

R. E. Comp. John McLaren, of Orangeville, Ont., who represents Arkansas near the Grand Chapter of Canada, sent a most fraternal message of acknowledgment and greeting, and incidentally referred to the actions and position of his own Grand Chapter. The communication, which, by the way, is an example for others holding the position, received the compliment of being printed in full.

Honorary membership will henceforth be a doubtful distinction in Arkansas, the following resolution being adopted:

“No honorary member, who is not also a regular member of the Chapter, shall be allowed to vote or hold office in a Subordinate Chapter.”

The General Grand Chapter having accepted Arkansas' invitation to meet in triennial conclave at Little Rock this year, an appropriation for the suitable entertainment of the distinguished guests was agreed to.

The regrettable death of Comp. Laughlin has left a vacant chair in the Correspondence circle, and the pro-

ceedings does not include a report this year. Next time we expect to hear from Comp. J. B. McCaleb.

James B. Baker, Melbourne, Grand High Priest.

John C. Bone, Batesville, Grand Secretary.

CALIFORNIA

Chapters . . 73

Members . . 7,280

An increase of six hundred and sixty in the year was the creditable showing that assisted to cheer the Companions of the Golden State when they met in Forty-ninth Annual Convocation on the 21st April, 1903. It was, as Grand Secretary Davies reported, the most prosperous period in the history of Grand Chapter.

Grand High Priest Wittenmyer, in greeting the Convocation, said:

“The age in which we live is the most progressive the world has ever known. Every branch of industry and science has been developed in a rapid and progressive manner. Keeping pace with the age of progress, I am happy to say that the conditions and prosperity of the Royal Arch Chapter in this jurisdiction was never better than now. Unusual prosperity has attended our Order and blessings have been bounteously bestowed upon Masonry and its votaries.”

He made eleven visitations and found everything satisfactory. Two new Chapters were born under his regime.

Grand Lecturer Day, in a brief report, testified to the general desire for correct work exhibited in the Chapters generally, and commenting on the remarkable increase in membership, makes it clear that he has no intention of hiding his own light under a bushel, and that there is justification for his five hundred dollars salary and expenses.

“The Grand Lecturer and his Deputies do not wish to be regarded as *elastic* in their ideas when they hold that some portion of this healthy increase may be due to the influence they have exerted and the interest they have aroused on their official visits.”

General Grand Chapter's ritual was adopted as the

work of the jurisdiction, and appropriation for the necessary change was agreed to.

The Grand Secretary's office in the Masonic Temple having been appropriated by the trustees, new quarters were secured and furnished in the Starr King Building.

Tribute was paid to the memory of the late M. E. Companion Josiah H. Drummond, of Maine, who was California's representative in that jurisdiction, and an excellent portrait of him included in the printed proceedings.

Companion Davies' report on Correspondence is a careful review of sister Grand Chapters, among them Canada for 1902. The report is largely extract. Concluding, he says:

"The subjects for comment in the record of Capitular Masonry for the year which we are reviewing have been limited to few. The several Jurisdictions have been prosperous and peaceful, while their proceedings show an almost universal desire to correct the few existing irregularities, the chief and most glaring of which is recognized as 'horse-play,' or ceremonial murder."

Charles Fayette Lott, Oroville, Grand High Priest.

William A. Davies, San Francisco, Grand Secretary.

COLORADO

Chapters . . 35

Members . . 2,906

Thirty-two of the Chapters on the roll were represented at the Twenty-eighth Annual Convocation in Denver on the 18th September, 1902, when M. E. Comp. William L. Bush, Grand High Priest, bade the Companions a hearty welcome. His address was confined mainly to his official actions, and that his ambition was to rule with impartiality, is indicated in the following:

I have declined in every instance to grant Dispensations to receive petitions for the degrees, or to ballot upon petitions at other than the regular time, where requests for such Dispensations have been made. The reasons given in these requests were in nearly every case to hurry candidates through the degrees to enable them to make a journey, or make application for so-called higher degrees. Not being satisfied in my own mind that it was

for the good of Royal Arch Masonry to grant such Dispensations under such circumstances, I declined to do so.

He questioned the wisdom of the regulation requiring a petitioner for the degrees to have been a Master Mason six months before his petition can be received. The object of this law was undoubtedly to compel candidates to become proficient in the work of Symbolic Masonry before receiving the Capitular Degrees, and he adds sententiously:

“While the object is good, I question its being attained. On the other hand, when the candidate has received the Master Mason’s Degree and is informed that he must wait six months before he can gain further Masonic light in the Chapter, in many cases he will lose interest and join other organizations. Unless there is a desire on the part of the candidate to make a study of Masonry and become proficient in its work, you cannot force him to do so with a By-law.”

The Chapter at Florence working under dispensation was given its charter.

Companion Foster’s report on Correspondence is, to the attentive reader, the gem of the volume. To Canada for 1902 he gives three pages of extract and comment. To the misplacement of a name in the M. E. the Grand Z.’s “necrology” he directs attention, and while admitting the error, we would venture to express surprise that so careful a reviewer would permit his usually accurate pen to describe that exalted Companion as “Grand Lecturer.”

“Men still had faults, and men will have them still,
He that hath none, and lives as angels do,
Must be an angel.”

He quotes us on Connecticut’s perpetual jurisdiction law and other matters.

“Whilst we don’t entirely agree with Companion Bennett in his objection to Connecticut law, that a Brother elected by a Chapter cannot receive his degree in any other Chapter without its permission, we give what he says:

“On dependent membership he hews pretty close to the line of truth, though we are of opinion there is more to it than simple dollars and cents.

“We think his position well taken on the use of the word ‘healed,’ made use of by the Deputy Grand High Priest of New Mexico.”

Under Kansas, referring to the Grand High Priest's disapproval of public installations, he rightly says:

"He believes, with his mother Jurisdiction, that public installations of Masonic bodies are improper, and there are lots of us who stand with him. The writer is one who is not partial to them, and prefers not to have them. The less ostentation in Masonry the better; let it work in its good, old quiet way, and it will accomplish more good than any amount of show. Its acts or the acts of its devotees are what count, not public profession."

And, under Maryland, pertinently asks:

"Are not public installations rather bidding for members, and not quite in conformity with our profession, that we do no proselytizing?"

He stops at Ohio to say something about the queer spectacle of a Commandery of Knights Templars escorting the officers of Grand Chapter from their hotel to the place of meeting.

"We have given this opening ceremony in full, because it is rather unique. We do not like this parading along the streets. It smacks too much of the many benefit societies that like to parade before the public. Masonry should be more subdued and rather look to be sought after than to parade itself."

He is apparently not in harmony with his Grand High Priest on the six months probation idea. Companion Barron had quoted us:

"He (Companion Bennett of Canada) is an advocate of six months' breathing spell after taking the Master's Degree. Our belief is that it frequently cools, if it doesn't kill, Masonic enthusiasm, and we do love an enthusiastic work."

And Companion Foster rejoins:

"So do we, but if six months' probation kills the enthusiasm, it must have had a poor root, and all gone to leaf, and, like the plant, it is worthless and soon withers away. It is better gone; it would never bear fruit."

John Humphreys, Trinidad, Grand High Priest.

Wm. D. Todd, Denver, Grand Secretary.

CONNECTICUT

Chapters .. 40

Members .. 6,408

The One Hundred and Fifth Annual Convocation of this patriarchal Grand Chapter was held in New Haven on the 12th May, 1903, and presided over by Edgar W. Latham, M. E. Grand High Priest.

The speech from the throne was of the donkey's gallop variety, short and sweet. He lost no time in flowery exordium, but plunged at once into an account of his visitations, in which he includes:

"The Thirteenth Annual Reunion of the Anointed High Priests of the State of New York and had the pleasure of meeting the Grand High Priests of several of the Grand Chapters and of Canada."

He granted numerous dispensations, all for "good cause," recommended appointments as Grand Representatives, suggested April as the month for subordinate Chapters' annual, and concluded with thanks.

Other Grand Officers reported numerous visitations. The Grand Secretary reported an increase of 145.

On motion it was voted that all Past Grand High Priests be presented with a Royal Arch apron, and that the retiring Grand High Priest shall hereafter be presented with an apron and jewel.

The Ways and Means Committee gave it as their opinion that the present revenue is ample for all expenses of the Grand Chapter, and recommend that no change be made at this convocation. The other committees had little or nothing to do.

For the twenty-sixth time, the veteran Companion, John H. Barlow, presented the report on Correspondence. He kindly reviewed Canada for 1902 and 1903. To our objection to perpetual jurisdiction of a Chapter over an applicant for the degrees, he furnishes the following unconvincing "what we have we hold" rejoinder:

"Connecticut does not and has always held to the doctrine of perpetual jurisdiction and a Chapter acquires jurisdiction by

accepting as well as by rejecting an applicant. It does not hold any whip over a good brother's shoulders, and for good reasons a release of such jurisdiction would be granted."

Companion Waite, of Massachusetts, reviewing Connecticut, dissented from the report of the Committee on Ritual in allowing the High Priest at his discretion to omit a portion of the Historical Lecture, and Companion Barlow thus replies:

"The writer was the author of that report. While we would urge a promptness among the officers that would allow of the giving of it entire, our experience of many years in the work inclines us to the belief that it is better to omit some portion than keep the Companion beyond a reasonable hour, when it becomes tiresome."

Our good Companion will find that there are many who will dissent from that argument. Such consideration for the poor candidate would be amusing were it not so glaringly pernicious.

Frank W. Beardsley, Shelton, Grand High Priest.

Jas. McCormick, Hartford, Grand Secretary.

DELAWARE

Chapters .. 4

Members .. 780

The roll was increased just one for every year of the Grand Chapter's existence, viz., 35. One of the four Chapters has a membership of 423. Three are located in Wilmington, and the youngest in Georgetown, with a roll of 43. Grand Chapter met in the former city on 21st January, 1903, with a goodly attendance. J. Paul Lukens, M. E. Grand High Priest, congratulated the Companions on having made "substantial gains." He had the opportunity of reporting what few in his position were able to do, viz., visit "all the Chapters in the jurisdiction."

He also dropped in on the Grand Chapter of New Jersey, and was impressed with the methods which he witnessed, and which he recommended should be copied. Later the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

“That hereafter each year during the session of the Grand Chapter, at such time as the M. E. Grand High Priest may direct, the Representatives of Grand Chapters of Sister Jurisdictions near the Grand Chapter of Delaware be received in ample form in open Chapter, showing courtesy to, and honoring our Sister Grand Chapters and those representing them.”

Feeling reference was made to the death of S. A. Hodgman, Past Grand Treasurer.

Grand High Priest Lukens was re-elected, but his Companions presented him with a Past G. H. P.'s jewel just the same. In the course of his acknowledgment he said:

“In accepting this jewel I would state that it rounds out my Masonic career. I have had the honor of presiding over all the Masonic bodies of which I am a member, and have held the presiding office in all the Grand bodies in Delaware. An honor held only by Companion P. G. H. P. Harrison and myself.”

The latter again furnishes the Correspondence report, which is as pleasant as it is concise. In his review of Canada for 1902 he says:

“Our Companions of Canada have an excellent system of government. Their jurisdiction is divided into seventeen districts, each in charge of a superintendent, whose duty is to visit each Chapter in his district and report upon its general working condition. By this means they may know at any time just how each Chapter is getting along.”

Defending the “peg leg,” he observes, in reply to our comments:

“We claimed, and still claim, that a Brother with an artificial leg is entitled to our consideration; he should not be compelled to suffer the pangs of ostracism by the Companions because a misfortune has befallen him, all other things being equal.”

From which it may be deduced that the legs being unequal, the brother would not be eligible if, say, one of his eyes was “scientific.”

“Man is his own star, and that soul that can be honest is the only perfect man.”

J. Paul Lukens, Wilmington, Grand High Priest.

Jas. H. Price, Wilmington, Grand Secretary.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Chapters . . 12

Members . . 2,841

This interesting Craft centre contributed 139 to the Capitular host during 1902, and Companion Harry Standiford, M. E. Grand High Priest, voiced the general satisfaction in opening his address to the Thirty-sixth Annual Convocation in Washington on the evening of February 11th last:

“The year just closed has been a remarkably successful one from every standpoint. Capitular Masonry has shared in the prosperity of the times. The officers and Companions of the constituent Chapters, imbued with the spirit of fraternity and progress, have wrought capably, and we have made a substantial gain in membership and finances.”

The proposer of a rejected applicant, Brother, A., in one of the Chapters, was wrathful enough to openly declare that no other brother should be elected to receive the degrees in the Chapter until his nominee should be elected. Immediately afterward a ballot was taken on the petition of another applicant, Brother B., and, sure enough, the balloting proved “foul.” Later in the evening the indignant one announced his purpose to be present at every meeting of the Chapter and see that no one should be elected to receive the degrees until the petition of his friend, Brother A., could again be presented. The presiding officer of the Chapter reported the incident to the Grand High Priest:

“It appearing that an injustice had been done Brother B., whose rejection was due to the malice of the Companion referred to, I was requested to set aside the ballot and order that another ballot be taken on the petition of Brother B. at a future Convocation.”

“I replied that while the circumstances attending the rejection of Brother B. were unfortunate, I could not grant the request, inasmuch as no authority to set aside a ballot is conferred on the Grand High Priest by the Constitution. As the action of the offending Companion showed a spirit inimical to the teachings of Masonry, I advised the High Priest that the Chapter should at once take cognizance of his conduct and act accordingly.”

Grand visitations were made to all the Chapters, and everything was found to be lovely.

The efforts of the fraternity in Washington to provide themselves with a Temple worthy of the Craft and the city, are deserving of all praise, and should prove an incentive to other, if less pretentious, centres.

“In April, 1898, the Masonic fraternity of this jurisdiction held a Fair and Exposition for the purpose of creating a fund to be used in securing a site on which to erect a Masonic Temple, and from the proceeds of this Fair, together with subscriptions to stock from Masonic bodies, the Masonic Temple Association was enabled to pay \$70,000 upon the purchase price of the site selected at the corner of New York Avenue, H and 13th Streets N.W., which was \$115,000. Encouraged by this magnificent showing, a second Fair and Exposition was given at Convention Hall, April 14 to April 30, 1902, to raise sufficient funds to complete the payment of \$45,000 due upon the site. To this end the Masonic bodies were invited to take part, and nights were assigned to the different branches of Masonry. April 18 was Chapter night, and the Companions of the constituent Chapters acted as an escort to the officers of the Grand Chapter.”

“The attendance was over 111,000 and the net earnings over \$55,000, enabling the Association to complete the payment upon the ground and have a substantial balance on hand. The Association is laboring to bring about, at an early date, the erection of a Masonic Temple which will meet the requirements of the fraternity, and the support of the Chapters will greatly assist in the accomplishment of this end.”

For twenty-five years the Grand Chapter revenues were derived from a per capita of fifty cents and five dollars for each exaltation. In 1892 the latter was repealed, and the balance on hand perceptibly dwindled year by year. The Grand High Priest made a strong appeal for the restoration of the exaltation fee:

“For seven years we have lived ‘from hand to mouth,’ anticipating our revenues, pledging our securities for loans and imposing upon the generosity of our Grand Treasurer, who has frequently paid our obligations from his personal funds. This is a humiliating confession, Companions, and I would hesitate to place it on record but for the fact that I want every Companion to vote understandingly on a measure for our relief from this embarrassing condition.”

An amendment to the Constitution, providing for a

tax of three dollars on every exaltation, was submitted and adopted on the following interesting voting:

“A vote was taken by division, resulting in ayes 54, nays 33. The amendment not receiving the necessary two-thirds vote, was declared lost.”

“Companion Alva S. Taber moved to reconsider the vote by which the amendment was lost. Carried.”

“Another vote was then taken, resulting in ayes 76, nays 12. The amendment was declared adopted.”

The Jurisprudence Committee is to consider a proposed standing resolution, to the effect that whenever a member of a Chapter who is also a member of a Commandery, shall be suspended, it shall be the duty of the Secretary of such Chapter to give the Commandery prompt notice of such suspension and of the grounds thereof, and to answer any inquiry made of him by the Recorder of a Commandery as to the standing of any Companion in his Chapter who is a Knight Templar.

It all “depends,” you know, but where is it going to end? Anacotia Companions petitioned for a charter and got it.

Companion A. W. Johnston, for the third time, submits his review of the Grand Chapters, and with a large measure of success. He is generous with Canada for 1902, and noting Grand Z. Gibson’s address, says, and thereby reveals a refreshing perspicacity:

“Then follows a beautiful paragraph of homage to His Most Gracious Majesty King Edward the Seventh, in paying which a colonist can double discount an inhabitant of the mother country every time. The most loyal Englishman in the world is a Scotchman, with the colonist a close second, and the real Britisher a far-away third.”

His comment on our views of certain matters displays the same quality in an equally pleasing if not convincing degree. His remarks, however, are so well put that in justice to his side of the case, they are cheerfully reproduced:

“In various places he combats ‘dependent membership,’ his position being apparently based on the objection that it is mod-

ern, which it undoubtedly is. But we have to put up with so many things that are modern, some of them disgracefully so, that we must stifle our feelings. Hall rent is an abominable innovation on the practice of our ancient brethren, who used to meet on the tops of bluffs and down in the creek bottoms, paying the landlord no tribute. But paying debts is a rather elderly practice, and has had the sanction of usage among good people in all ages, and dues are debts. To be a Master Mason, including good standing in a Lodge, is a condition precedent to becoming a Royal Arch Mason, and he who does not maintain the condition *after* the fact that was necessary *before* the fact, is lacking in the sense of honor that should characterize a Mason, and so should forfeit that as to which he fails to keep his contract, part of which contract is to abide by the by-laws, one of which requires the payment of a certain sum annually as dues."

To which one might add that the Mason who is "lacking the sense of honor" by withdrawing from Lodge and Chapter is not likely to be converted into an "honorable" member by compulsion. The dependent membership regulation provides the doubtful benefit of retaining dishonorable men in the Lodge that might better be without them. The elasticity of conscience which prompts them to evade the obligations referred to would not be long in finding other means to satisfy the objectionable characteristics which are natural to such, and which are not calculated to promote harmony. We agree to each and all of Companion Johnston's remarks, but still abide by the one adamantine fact that the great Masonic principle of liberty is violated by that class of legislation.

A Grand High Priest had said in the course of his address to his Grand Chapter: "Masonry has been a factor in many political changes, notably in France and Italy, and has always acted for freedom and the rights of man." To this we had ventured an objection to the effect that we would never hold up France and Italy for the emulation of the English-speaking Craft. To bracket the "principles eulogized with those of the ancient fraternity is, in our humble opinion, open to serious question, always supposing that we have interpreted the vague allusions aright. Companion Johnston pauses to remark, and "vaguely":

"Which makes us wonder what he really thinks Masonry stands for besides the glorification of inherited power; but his

reference to France and Italy assures us that he has not 'interpreted' any of 'the vague allusions aright.' "

All we can say is that if Companion Johnston maintains that Masonry in France and Italy "has always acted for freedom and the rights of man," then to Continental Europe we will look for other lessons of exalted morality. However, having administered the slap, he applies the salve:

"Companion Bennett is always interesting and never dull, and his review is one of the most comprehensive of those which come to our desk."

Geo. Clarke Ober, Washington, Grand High Priest.

Arvine W. Johnston, Washington, Grand Secretary.

FLORIDA

Chapters . . 21

Members . . 922

Sixteen of the twenty-one Chapters were regularly represented at the Fifty-seventh Annual Convocation held in Jacksonville on the 12th May, 1903. The name of Canada's envoy was not among the numerous Grand Representatives in attendance, and we wondered, for hitherto he was invariably in evidence. The following paragraph in the Grand High Priest's address sadly explained the gap:

"R. E. Companion D. W. Stanley died at his home in Bartow, November 15, 1902. He was a Past High Priest of Thomas Brown Chapter, No. 22, Grand Principal Sojourner of this Grand Chapter in 1901, and also Grand Representative of the Grand Chapter of Canada near this Grand Chapter. Big hearted, genial, with a smile and pleasant word for every one, he was universally beloved, and a tinge of sadness comes over us as we realize that Companion Stanley will meet with us here no more. He was an honorable man, and his life was marked by zeal, energy and good deeds."

A Chapter at Key West requested the G. H. P. to give the High Priest of said Chapter authority to suspend without action of the Chapter certain Companions who were in arrears for dues.

He replied that he had no such power, that a Companion could not be suspended without due action of the Chapter to which he belonged.

A new Chapter was granted by him to St. Augustine, and Grand Chapter endorsed his action.

“The general use of the ‘cipher book’ in many Chapters is a growing evil,” said the G. H. P., “and so long as they are tolerated so long will there be too many officials who will make no effort to commit the work to memory.”

“In the interest of Royal Arch Masonry, I would suggest a regulation ‘Forbidding the use of cipher books in open Chapter.’”

A Committee was appointed to look into the matter and report on the advisability of inviting the General Grand Chapter to hold the next triennial convocation in Jacksonville.

A special Committee was appointed to procure designs and estimates for a Past Grand High Priest’s jewel, and in case a satisfactory jewel can be procured for a reasonable sum, to order six, and have them ready for presentation next Annual Convocation, provided:

“That if the General Grand Chapter shall hold its next triennial Convocation in Jacksonville during this year, the appropriations for jewels for the Past Grand High Priests be postponed and the appropriation for the expenses of the representative of this Grand Chapter in attending the Convocation of the General Grand Chapter be rescinded.”

Thos. G. Hutchinson, Jacksonville, Grand High Priest.

Wilber P. Webster, Jacksonville, Grand Secretary.

GEORGIA

Chapters .. 117

Members .. 4,179

“Number of Chapters in the roll at the opening of the Convocation, 113; number at the close, 117.” There is probably no jurisdiction of its size that can equal

Georgia in its number of Chapters. The membership is not as strong in proportion. The representation at the Eighty-first Annual Convocation at Macon on the 29th April, 1903, was most gratifying.

M. E. James W. Taylor, General Grand High Priest; M. W. Max Meyerhardt, Grand Master, Grand Lodge; and the Companions who had answered as Grand Representatives, were presented at the altar and welcomed with Grand honors.

The Royal Craft in Georgia had a most earnest worker in Robt. L. Colding, M. E. Grand High Priest. Three pages of his address are devoted to an interesting account of his visitations.

Past Deputy Grand High Priest Thomas Ballantyne, an old veteran of the Crimean campaign, who was also Past Grand Commander of the Knights Templars, died at his home in Savannah, April 24th, 1903, "just as the bells were tolling low twelve," and the Grand High Priest, in referring to his career, said:

"Companion Ballantyne was born in Glasgow, Scotland, August 5th, 1833, and was educated at Hutchinson's Academy, a school of renown in Glasgow, after which he served his apprenticeship as an iron moulder. In his young manhood he enlisted in the Scottish Greys or Second Royal Dragoons, famous in song and story for its celebrated charge at Balaklava. Companion Ballantyne was not, however, in this celebrated charge, being on ship-board on his way to join his regiment when that celebrated charge was made. He was present and participated in the Crimean War and was at the capture of Sebastopol, after which he was discharged and returned home. He moved to the city of Savannah, Ga., in 1859, and in the war between the States was placed in charge of the work of manufacturing ordnance for gunboats of the Confederate States navy."

He congratulated the Companions that the proposed Masonic Home was now *au fait accompli*:

"It will shortly be erected and put into successful operation, and the Masons of Georgia, bearing in mind the obligations we have all assumed, will maintain this Home just so long as want needs a haven and humanity a friend, and the unfortunate and destitute, whom we have pledged ourselves to aid and assist by solemn and binding obligations, are in need of our aid."

Yes, the Masons of Georgia have assumed a very heavy obligation, the weight of which they have yet to realize. We wish them all success in their pious undertaking. Among his decisions the following as exemplifying the questionable wisdom of "ante-room" enactments will not be without interest:

"8th. A Chapter has a called meeting for work in all the degrees. The Mark, Past and Most Excellent Masters' Degrees are conferred. A recess is taken, and during the time of refreshment the whole Chapter, Grand Council and other officers, Companions and candidates go down town and drink beer arranged for the occasion, return to the hall and confer the Royal Arch Degree. Did such Chapter manifest the principles, spirit and morals of Royal Arch Masonry?

"*Decision*: I do not consider said action proper or dignified. Masonry teaches temperance, and while this does not mean total abstinence, the example set by the entire Chapter stopping in the midst of their work to visit a bar-room is a practice that should not be encouraged. The Grand Lodge of Georgia has held that beer cannot be served at the end of a Masonic meeting in a room adjoining the Lodge room, and I consider the practice of drinking in the privacy of a supper room, even though it adjoins the Lodge room, a far less evil than the one now complained of.

To which the Jurisprudence Committee contributed the following endorsation:

"Your Committee not only approves Decision No. 8 of the Grand High Priest, relative to the facts therein mentioned, but condemns in unmeasured terms the practice of Companions and candidates, during the conferring of degrees, leaving the hall and drinking beer and other intoxicants provided for the occasion, and returning afterwards to the hall and having the degrees conferred.

There is something in the above that impels the question, Which was the most intemperate, the Grand Lodge of Georgia or the Companions who in accordance with old-time custom, adjourned from labor to refreshment and incidentally upheld the social side of our "virtue"? The Chapter members being shut out of their own premises, unless they confined themselves to sarsaparilla or the exhilarating lemon squash, very naturally secured premises where they might enjoy social intercourse for an hour and be free to take a glass of beer or lemonade as their inclinations led them. The question as put to

the Grand High Priest was couched in unpleasantly harsh phraseology, and that officer went peculiarly beyond the limit in assuming from it that the Companions left "to visit a bar-room." He redeemed himself, however, in venturing the opinion that the Lodge ante-room was preferable to the evil complained of, but the Committee, which agreed with him, failed to recommend that the Grand Lodge regulation be repealed, which it should have done.

"Boundless intemperance
In nature is a tyranny; it hath been
Th' untimely emptying of the happy throne
And fall of many Kings."

Three or four cases engaged the attention of the Grievances and Appeals Committee. One of them involved a recommendation for the expulsion of a Companion for un-Masonic conduct "in failing to pay his initiation fees, having the ability to do so."

What kind of conduct was the Chapter guilty of in admitting the brother *before* paying his initiation fees? The recommendation revealed a very lop-sided variety of justice.

The following singular resolution, indicating that Grand Chapter had gone into the regalia furnishing business, was adopted: That the bid of the — Manufacturing Company, of —, for furnishing the Subordinate Chapters with regalia, be accepted, and the Grand Secretary be directed to make a contract for twelve months, as per list of articles and prices furnished.

A most excellent review of the Grand Chapters was contributed by Companion A. M. Lambdin. Under Arkansas he pauses to note the communication from R. E. Companion John McLaren, the representative of that jurisdiction near the Grand Chapter of Canada:

"This not only reads well, but shows that Grand Representatives can feel the importance of the honor conferred upon them, and their desire to make the honor a benefit to the body representatives and thus add to the pleasure and knowledge of the their trust."

“We hope that this will be followed by other Grand Representatives and thus add to the pleasure and knowledge of the Craft.”

“An honor well merited.” Thus he appropriately refers to Grand Chapter’s recognition of M. E. Comp. Hugh Murray’s devoted services.

Congratulations are in order, for the wielder of the pen is also the wielder of the gavel. Georgia’s choice, as usual, was one of wisdom.

A. M. Lambdin, Barnesville, Grand High Priest.

W. A. Wolihin, Macon, Grand Secretary.

ILLINOIS

Chapters . . 186

Members . . 20,295

“A year of unexampled prosperity,” reports the Committee on Chartered Chapters, a net gain for the period of 1,229. This record is one that the Prairie State is naturally proud of, and the Companions assembled at the Fifty-fourth Annual Convocation on the 29th October, 1903, no doubt unitedly joined in the Grand Chaplain’s eloquent oblation of praise and thanksgiving.

M. E. Companion Joseph E. Dias, Dep. Gen. Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter, U.S.A., was introduced and received with the Grand honors.

Companion Dias responded in a fraternal spirit, with an interesting account of the meeting at Little Rock.

The Lexington Quartette, having tendered their services for the occasion, then sung several choice selections. These probably helped to sustain the Companions during the delivery of the Grand High Priest’s address, which embraces fifteen pages of the printed proceedings, all, or nearly all, of which was purely of local interest. His visitations were few, and some good intentions with regard to dormant Chapters had to be shelved owing to illness at home.

He recommended that the per capita be reduced from sixty cents to fifty cents, and this was subsequently agreed to.

Past Grand High Priest Wiley M. Egan, who for some years represented Canada near his Grand Chapter, died in the previous February, and M. E. Companion Whipple pays deserved tribute to his memory:

“His discharge of the various trusts thus committed to his hands was not only creditable to himself, but to the Grand Chapter, and upon the pages of its transactions for all these years is the enduring record of his official integrity and fidelity.”

Two other old-timers had passed away in the persons of Past Grand High Priests James Champion McMurtry and Edward Coleman Pace.

The E. Grand Secretary presented the report from R. E. Companion William Forbes, Grand Representative near the Grand Chapter of Canada, which was received and accredited.

A new Chapter at Chicago Heights, as recommended by Grand High Priest Whipple, was granted a charter.

A recommendation to appropriate five hundred dollars to the Eastern Star Home, was snuffed out by the Committee on Accounts, the lowering of the per capita being assigned as a reason.

M. E. Comp. Warvelle takes a limited express trip through the sister jurisdictions:

“My jurisdictional reviews, in many instances, are very brief. This has been occasioned, not by any desire on my part to slight any jurisdiction, but because there was nothing to write about.”

“This report has been prepared under the difficulties resulting from continued ill health, and if you fail to find any scintillations of wit or ‘brilliant rhetorical effusions,’ or, for that matter, any of those little touches that go to lighten up the gloom of a correspondence report, kindly overlook the defects.”

To which we add the earnest hope that he may be speedily restored to give to all the benefit of his wide experience and research.

However, he furnishes abundant food for reflection in his "Aftermath," or what he styles elsewhere a "topical review." It is most interesting.

Under the heading "The Cup that Cheers," he handles without gloves the "intemperate" temperance that results in a certain phase of class legislation, which he stoutly declares to be antagonistic to true Masonic sentiment:

"There is, at the present time, a strong tendency in many parts of the country, not only to deny admission to persons engaged in the manufacture and sale of ardent spirits, but to exclude from membership those already admitted who persist in following this particular vocation. This tendency is not confined to the Lodge, but has manifested itself in the Chapter as well, and, in some jurisdictions, has been given a practical effect."

"That such legislation is a wide departure from the early policy of the Craft requires no demonstration. Not a century has elapsed since the public house was the common meeting place of Lodges and other Masonic bodies, and a reference to the proceedings of the English bodies shows that, in many instances, the tavern still continues to shelter them. But the new movement, whatever may be thought of its propriety, seems to be gathering strength in all sections of the country, and, from present indications, it is not hazardous to predict that at no distant day the exclusion of 'rum-sellers' will be the rule and not the exception. From the producer to the consumer is not a wide step, and if we may legislate against the one, why not the other?"

"As a rule, the advocates of the exclusive legislation base their arguments largely upon the postulate that 'Temperance' is not only a cardinal virtue but an underlying principle of Freemasonry. Temperance, however, with most of these brethren, does not mean moderation, or a restriction upon the indulgence of the appetite, but total abstinence. Unfortunately the numerous brood of 'temperance' exhorters, reformers, lecturers, professionally drys, *et id genus omne*, have succeeded in obtaining a popular currency for this false meaning of the word, and not a few good people fondly imagine that they are temperate, both with respect to appetite and passions, when in fact they are quite the reverse. Total abstinence is not and never was a Masonic teaching, while moderate indulgence—in other words, temperance—is and always has been enjoined upon the Craft whether at work or refreshment."

"As a general proposition, the supporters of the new movement for exclusion condemn both the traffic and the use of in-

toxicants, and, as I have said, if we may legislate against the producer and distributor, why may we not also against the consumer? If we may exclude the liquor dealer, without regard to personal qualities, why may we not also the liquor drinker? If the sale of liquor shall be made a Masonic offense should we not, to be consistent, make the drinking of liquor a like offense? If the stuff is inherently vicious why resort to half-way measures and while we condemn the one class condone the sins of the other ”

“All of these questions must occur to one who calmly and dispassionately reviews the situation. When we have once started upon our work of reformation, where is it to end? We will pass over the brothel keepers and other unsavory occupations but how about the respectable (?) men who exact unconscionable interest for the use of money? Who manipulate the markets and create monopolies in the necessities of life? Who crush out small competitors? “Who devour widow’s houses, and for a pretense make long prayers?” Do we, by placing the seal of disapproval on one business thereby say all others are approved? If not, then why resort to class legislation at all?”

Robert L. McKinlay, Paris, Grand High Priest.

Gilbert W. Barnard, Chicago, Grand Secretary.

INDIANA

Chapters .. 107

Members .. 8,528

The Grand Chapter assembled in its Fifty-eighth Annual Convocation in Masonic Temple, in the City of Indianapolis, on Wednesday, the 21st day of October, 1903. and on the twelfth of the following month the printed proceedings were in our hands. To R. E. Calvin W. Prather, Grand Secretary, is due the credit for this remarkable achievement.

Companion Alvin G. Tillotson, M. E. Grand High Priest, remarked in opening:

“A bounteous harvest has rewarded the labors of the husbandman. ‘Plenty, Health and Peace’ are everywhere manifest.

“Harmony exists throughout this and sister Grand Jurisdictions. Not a cloud is visible upon the horizon of Capitular Masonry.”

That is just where the Correspondent’s trouble comes

in. It is the cloud he is looking for, but it's not there, not even a tiny one the size of a man's hand. This "peace and prosperity" text is no doubt delightful for the chief ruler to expound upon, but the reviewer who is forever hunting out subjects of a more lively and topical variety is apt to regard it as monotonous, and feels much in the position of the amiable "pug," who realizes that the legislatures of his beloved country are at variance with his own fashionable views on the wearing of a four-ounce glove and little else.

"And sheathed their swords for lack of argument."

Five new Chapters were organized and two constituted. The Chapters generally enjoyed an unparalleled growth during the past year, the actual net gain in membership in the State being 655. This is a gain of nearly one hundred per cent. over last year, and is the greatest ever made by Grand Chapter in any one year since it was formed.

The Hoosier State is bent on making a record, notwithstanding that—

"My official acts have not been many, nothing important has transpired during my term of office that has needed serious attention. Few questions have been asked and few decisions rendered."

The installing officer in a Chapter, finding that the Companion elected to the office of Scribe was absent, declared the office vacant, and ordered forthwith an election to fill the gap, and another Companion was elected. At the following convocation a motion nullifying the action of the previous meeting was carried. Against this the installing officer appealed to the Grand High Priest, who decided that the action of the installing officer in declaring the office of Scribe vacant because the Companion duly elected to that office was not present, was illegal and void. That to have declared the office vacant would have required a duly authenticated motion and action of the Chapter, and that the motion as made at the subsequent meeting which in substance declared the action illegal and void, was proper, and the action of the Chapter was sustained.

Past Grand High Priest jewels for the six Most Excellent Companions who had not previously been so favored were duly presented and acknowledged.

Jewels were in the air that day, for after Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment, the M. E. Grand High Priest requested all to remain for a few minutes, whereupon Most Worshipful William E. English, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, F. & A. M, of Indiana, in a very pleasing address presented a Past Grand Master's jewel to Past Grand Master Lucien A. Foote, who responded in a few well-chosen words.

Canada's faithful representative, M. E. Companion Thomas R. Marshall, Past Grand High Priest, "in his usual happy and eloquent style," presented the retiring Grand High Priest, Alvin G. Tillotson, with a Past Grand High Priest's jewel.

And to cap all, their four years Grand Chaplain, Rev. Samuel L. Shirley, was made the recipient of "a most elegant case of silverware," and, as usual in such cases, "was taken completely by surprise." The presentation speech by Companion Philemon H. Clugston was as eloquent as it was unique.

A motion to reduce the per capita from forty cents to twenty-five cents did not appeal to the Jurisprudence Committee, who thought it "a matter of too much importance to determine without some investigation, and as this is the last session of the Grand Chapter there is not sufficient time for such investigation."

Companion Simeon S. Johnson contributed the Correspondence report, in which Canada for 1902 receives fraternal notice.

New York's ruler had used the words, "our Imperial jurisdiction," and Companion Johnson's democratic gall rises against the phrase:

"Why this is an 'Imperial Jurisdiction' more than Arizona or any other jurisdiction we do not know. Having some curiosity to know why the Grand High Priest used this term, we consult the dictionary and find that 'imperial' is defined to mean 'pertaining to an empire or emperor; royal, supreme.

We do not for a moment presume this expression was used in reference to any of these meanings, and have concluded the word sounded well and was thus used 'unthoughtedly.' There is no 'Imperial' in Masonry."

We shall now look to see the King deposed in the Chapters of Indiana, and in the meantime New York must find another distinctive title than "the Empire State."

Indian Territory's approval of the scientific leg elicits the following logical comment:

"So that a candidate in this jurisdiction with a wooden leg or arm can be made a Royal Arch Mason. If this is good law what is there to prevent one who has two artificial legs or arms from becoming a Royal Arch Mason?"

John J. Glendening, Indianapolis, Grand High Priest.

Calvin W. Prather, Indianapolis, Grand Secretary.

INDIAN TERRITORY

Chapters .. 37

Members .. 1,536

A gain for the year of 248 and a record for this young Grand Chapter to be proud of. It was the Fourteenth Annual Convocation that Grand High Priest I. B. Kirkland addressed at Guthrie on the 14th April last:

"The year just past has been a pleasant and prosperous one. Not only has our order been advancing, but peace and prosperity exist throughout our country."

He is not in favor of the peg leg, and so decided on a question submitted.

On one and the same day he authorized dispensations for the constitution of new Chapters at Tishomingo, Wetumka and Mangum.

"I am advised that these triplets are in a thriving condition and doubtless we will have a good report from each at this session of the Grand Chapter."

"Companion G. P. Uhl, of Stillwater Chapter, No. 14,

addressed the Grand Chapter proposing some action. He was instructed to present his matter in writing and submit it to the Committee on Jurisprudence."

It is hoped that the Committee will have something clearer than the above to "act" upon.

On motion \$500.00 was appropriated to the two Masonic Home funds, the one in Indian Territory, the other in Oklahoma, to be divided equally between them, \$250.00 to each.

Let us all pray that the funds will grow. It will be much pleasanter to look after them nestling in the bank than when they are converted into bricks and mortar.

Companion Joseph S. Murrow, Grand Secretary, got in the Correspondence report this year, which for economical reasons was cut out of the Proceedings of the previous period. He is limited as regards space, but he furnishes nevertheless a multum in parvo. He praises our system of inspection:

"Most of the Chapters have been visited and a detailed report of each is carefully made and published in the proceedings. We do not wonder that the Chapters grow and prosper under such fostering attention."

He has our thanks for words of appreciation. Under Michigan he combats the hard and fast line taken on physical perfection:

"We would admit a Brother without fingers as quickly as one without teeth, as both are imperfect physically."

Herbert J. Evans, Muskogee, Grand High Priest.

Joseph S. Murrow, Atoka, Grand Secretary.

IOWA

Chapters .. 127

Members .. 9,040

This prosperous Grand Chapter reached its half century when in Annual Convocation the Companions assembled at Oskaloosa on September 3rd, 1903, and were welcomed by Deputy Grand High Priest Turner, but there was a note of sadness:

"Companions, a strange fatality seems to hover over the East of the sanctuary in this Grand Chapter. On August 25, 1901, Grand High Priest N. B. Hyatt, after a more or less fluctuating condition of health, covering a period of several months' Juration, closed his tired eyes in the dreamless sleep of eternity."

"His successor, Companion T. B. Lacey, filled out his term of office with such marked ability that he was accorded the most flattering commendations for 'his wisdom, his charity, and his fraternal consideration,' yet he showed plainly at the Grand Convocation of October 9, 1902, that his health was impaired and that his old time vigor and activity were denied him."

"Early in February of this year our present Grand High Priest, I. P. Wilson, after many dire forebodings, was totally overcome by degeneration of the muscular tissues of the heart. Since that time he has lain prostrate—literally prostrate—and any attempt to raise him, even to a sitting posture, has resulted in immediate unconsciousness."

At the conclusion of the Deputy Grand High Priest's remarks a resolution of sympathy was introduced and adopted. A Committee of three Past Grand High Priests was appointed to go to M. E. Comp. Wilson's home at Burlington and present the stricken ruler with the sympathetic words of his Companions, as well as the jewel of the office he was so worthily filling when he was laid low.

Deputy Grand High Priest George R. Turner presented and read the address of Grand High Priest I. P. Wilson:

"My Worthy Companions: We are about to celebrate the 'Golden Anniversary' of the Grand Chapter of Iowa. Fifty years ago this Grand Body was organized at Mt. Pleasant, there being present delegates from Iowa Chapter, No. 1, at Burlington, Iowa City Chapter, No. 2, at Iowa City, and Washington Chapter, No. 4, at Muscatine. At this first meeting our lamented Companion T. S. Parvin was elected Grand High Priest, and he was the last representative of that original organization to receive the final summons, he having met with us for the last time only three years ago."

Referring to the increase in membership for the year of 414, he said:

"This is a showing of which we may well be proud. There has not been such an increase in any one year for at least ten

years, if not twenty-five. Royal Arch Masonry in Iowa shows steady and healthy growth."

The straining for effect which is too common in wording the published laws for the government of the Chapters and guidance of their members, appealed to him as being open to criticism:

"In some instances, however, it would seem that the sentences are so constructed as to disguise the meaning, and that it needs a lawyer to untangle those questions. Why not have the language *plain* and *simple*, so that the laity can easily understand? The law should be so constructed that there can be no possibility of a doubtful interpretation. While it may be true that the 'spirit of the law' may imply the real meaning or intent, the letter or literal statement of the law should be clearly and positively stated."

It was decided to celebrate the semi-centennial in fitting manner in 1904, and that a souvenir to commemorate the occasion be procured. Templar Park, Spirit Lake, was chosen for the next Annual Convocation.

A case of village politics was before the Grievances and Appeals Committee. It was a case of trouble in the Chapter at Estherville. The charges were:

First. That Companion W. H. Foote did, without just cause, wrongfully and maliciously prosecute and persecute Companion Edwin Dukes, a member of the same Chapter, both before the school board and justice court of Estherville, thereby humiliating the said Companion Dukes and impairing the usefulness of Jephtha Chapter.

Second. That Companion W. H. Foote was guilty of insubordination in deserting his station as Captain of the Host in said Jephtha Chapter, and thereby hindered the business of said Chapter.

Third. That Companion W. H. Foote by the said malicious and wrongful prosecutions and persecutions of Companion Dukes brought the Order of Masonry into disrepute and created contentions therein.

To these charges a plea of not guilty was entered, service accepted, and time waived, and a trial had, which resulted in the expulsion of Companion Foote.

The Companion appealed to Grand Chapter, and a voluminous transcript of the evidence was submitted. The Committee found:

"That this transcript contains but very little that is material or relevant. We fail to comprehend how any Masonic body in Chapter assembled could have passed such sentence, from the evidence, adduced, upon the defendant.

"We are of the opinion that the action of the Chapter in this case is evidently actuated by a spirit of retaliation, and is the outcome of a school difficulty that has existed in Estherville for some time, and which had spread over the entire community. Upon mature deliberation your committee is unanimous in concluding that the allegations are not supported by the evidence."

The sentence was reversed by the Committee, and the accused Companion restored to full membership, but he did not get off altogether:

"And as a warning to him and other members of that Chapter who have allowed their animosities to enter into and endanger their Masonic relations, we recommend that Companion Foote be censured, and that he and the officers and members of Jephtha Chapter, No. 128, of this Grand Jurisdiction be admonished in the future to refrain from such unmasonic conduct that tends to impair the sanctity of the ballot or otherwise bring harm upon our fraternity."

It was further recommended that the jewel of office of the High Priest of the Chapter be arrested and authority be given the second in command to assume the duties for the balance of the Capitular year:

"And we are of the opinion that those members of that Chapter who have been such active partisans upon either side of this unseemly controversy richly merit most severe censure at the hands of this Grand Chapter for bringing their personal differences within the sacred precincts of Masonry, where no contention should ever exist but that noble contention, or rather emulation, of who best can work and best agree."

Companion W. F. Cleveland is the author for the second time of a sprightly and entertaining review of sister jurisdictions. He gives two pages to Canada for 1903, noting again the absence of Iowa's representative, which, however, was unavoidable, owing to illness in the home. A new Mexican objection to the Grand Representative system elicits the following:

"If it is, in fact, such a useless appendage to Capitular Masonry, why does almost every Grand Jurisdiction in the United States and Canada keep it up, and why do those jurisdictions who have abolished the system from time to time hasten to

return to it? We desire to say to Companions of New Mexico, that we believe that their close and intimate fraternal relations with sister jurisdictions will become more firmly established through the influence of the Reportorial Corps and this same system of Grand Representatives than from any other source. See to it that the Grand Representatives of other Grand Chapters near your Grand Body are composed of live, active Masonic workers, who will regularly attend your Annual Convocations, and then after the sessions urge them to make brief report to the Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter they represent, and thus do your part towards making the Representative system what it is intended to be, rather than cry it down without reason nor cause.”

To the Pennsylvanian explanation of our criticism of their official nomenclature, Companion Cleveland offers some comment:

“Under Canada, in reply to Companion Bennett’s criticisms in regard to the custom in vogue in Pennsylvania of according the title of Most Excellent to all of the elective officers of the Grand Chapter instead of using that title for the Grand High Priest alone, they make quite an extended reply, showing that such was the custom in many of the Grand Chapters in days of yore. That such was the case in the early history of Capital Masonry they have established beyond a doubt, but that is no reason that the custom should arbitrarily be continued. We believe the high office of Grand High Priest should have a distinctive title unto itself, and we like the custom that generally obtains of referring to the Grand High Priest as Most Excellent and the remaining elective officers as Right Excellent.”

Geo. R. Turner, Waterloo, Grand High Priest.

Alf. Wingate, Des Moines, Grand Secretary.

KANSAS

Chapters .. 81

Members .. 5,800

Kansas possesses an illustrious Companion on the roll of officers of the General Grand Chapter who will, if he is spared, rise to the dignity of head of that venerable and important body, but although at the Thirty-eighth Annual Convocation, held at Wichita, on the 16th February, 1903, he held the lowly office of Grand Master of the First Veil, nevertheless M. E. Comp. Bestor G. Brown

received a special welcome at the hands of his Companions, and in responding said:

"I do take great pleasure in receiving these honors of Masonry in behalf of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, an organization of men that has long commanded the respect of the entire Masonic world; an organization which, in point of its personnel is the peer of any organization of men, and which, when in convocation at Washington, our national capital, was compared in the public prints to the Supreme Court of the United States."

M. E. Edward W. Wellington, Grand High Priest, then presented and read his annual address. Among those called away by death during the year was M. E. Andrew M. Callaham, Past Grand High Priest, and also Grand Representative from the District of Columbia.

The regulation for the promulgation of the new ritual will come as a shock to the advocates of the "mouth to ear" method of other jurisdictions:

"Individual members of subordinate chapters can obtain rituals only upon the recommendation of the High Priest and Secretary of their chapters, under seal. A fee of \$1.25 must accompany each application, and the applicant must sign a pledge, similar to the one signed by the officers, which shall further provide, that the applicant will annually present the ritual to the Secretary of his chapter for identification, and will surrender the same to the Secretary upon removing from the jurisdiction. The subordinate chapter shall be charged with each ritual ordered through its officers, and be held responsible for the applicant's compliance with the aforesaid pledge."

He made but two visitations, and the stereotyped explanation accompanies the record:

"My time during the past year has been so occupied with excessive business cares that I found it impossible to carry out my original intention of visiting most of our chapters, this to my great disappointment."

Notwithstanding the ease with which the ceremonial work can be procured in Kansas, the growth of the Royal Craft was not up to expectation. He found on examination "that 121 of the net increase stands to the credit of nine Chapters, leaving a balance of only 33 to be accounted for among the other seventy-two Chapters. He assigns three causes for the falling off:

1st. The general prosperity throughout the land which forces some men to take advantage of the hour, and devote more time to the material improvement of their conditions—this at the expense of social and Masonic duties.

2nd. The spreading of so many other fraternal organizations that afford greater social enjoyments, and furnish insurance and sick benefits to their members.

3rd. That the ritualistic work is not in good condition.

Singular that the prosperity for which every other jurisdiction is grateful should be described in Kansas as a hindrance to the advancement of Masonry.

The Grand Secretary was again able to report that annual returns and dues had been received from all chapters on the roll.

One chapter was instituted and another ceased to work.

The Grand Secretary's salary was increased by \$150. The appropriation under this head being \$1,200.

Grand Secretary Shaver presented his third report on Correspondence and there is no perceptible falling away from his early painstaking efforts. He culls the choicest bits as he moves along and compiles an excellent review for his Companions. He makes kindly mention of Canada for 1902. On the ritual question he does not see quite eye to eye with his colleagues in Kansas.

"We are a firm believer in the 'mouth to ear' method of instruction in the lodge ritual. It is the best and only proper method of instruction, and we are not in favor of a cipher which will enable a Mason to learn it in any other way. We are in favor, however, of an official initial 'aid to the memory,' which will enable a Mason who has properly learned the work to retain it and refresh his memory when necessary. In this business age, the average memory demands such an assistance, and will have it—hence we call it a necessary evil."

Frank E. Davis, Atchison, Grand High Priest.

William M. Shaver, Topeka, Grand Secretary.

KENTUCKY

Chapters . . 81

Members . . 4,187

Seven Chapters were added to the roll, six being restorations and one new. The membership was increased by 343.

The Grand High Priest, M. E. Companion Edward C. Sellers, informed the Eighty-fifth Annual Convocation at Louisville on 21st October, 1902, that "this has been an uneventful year in Capitular Masonry in this jurisdiction, nothing startling or extraordinary having occurred to disturb its peace and harmony." And a perusal of his address would corroborate the statement.

The "usual" number of requests for dispensations to receive and ballot on petitions out of time was granted.

"Some Chapters," he said, "seem to be disposed to ignore the law and invade the jurisdiction of other Chapters, without asking consent. Let us hope it is done through ignorance. This is a serious matter, and has a tendency to cause trouble and discord among those who should live in perfect harmony."

He did not record any visitations, but he got his jewel just the same, and, by the way, nineteen of his predecessors were similarly decorated. Each jewel cost \$50.00, or a total of 20 for \$1,000.00.

The stones in the "breast-plate" to be arranged in the following order:

Emerald,
Jasper,
Amethyst,
Beryl,

Topaz,
Sapphire,
Agate,
Onyx,

Sardius,
Carbunkle,
Ligure,
Chrysolite.

The Past Grand High Priests were lined up, and the chairman of the Committee, Companion Lewis, affixed the distinctive badge and eloquently addressed them:

"Now, in testimony of our appreciation of your former labors and a continuance of our respect and esteem, we present you these Tokens, to be borne with you down the hill of life. In this age of strenuous life the aged are all too soon relegated to

the rear, as of no avail, but these are to remind you that though your step may be feeble and your forms bent with the weight of years, here a fraternal welcome always awaits you, and to you the hand of brotherly love and friendship will ever be extended. And at last, when you shall one by one drop out to join the innumerable caravan moving to the Sanctum Sanctorum above, a White Stone shall be erected in our archives, with your names written thereon, to commemorate your virtues, your fidelity and your unwearied zeal."

P. G. H. P. Thomas, for his associate Past Grand High Priests, responded as follows:

But alas! Companion Thomas' response does not follow, the Grand Secretary explaining in a foot note:

Five full weeks have passed since Grand Chapter closed, but copy from Comp. Thomas has failed to reach here. Grand Secretary requires printer to proceed with the printing.

Another opportunity for immortality unseized. Now who will regret it most?

Border reciprocity was agreed to. The Grand Secretary, in reporting on the resuscitation of dormant Chapters, wisely said:

"I respectfully recommend that a part of the old balances due by these revived Chapters be remitted. To remit all might not be wise—inasmuch as it would serve as a precedent and encourage laxity in methods. To be kind and generous is noble, begets gratitude and stimulates virtue. To be harsh or lavish provokes resentment or encourages indifference and carelessness."

The pursuit of knowledge, characteristic of Kentucky, is illustrated in the following, the reading of which may occasion a sigh elsewhere:

"In the rush for copies of the ritual some of the Companions received them without giving receipts, and I would be glad that the list of Chapters to whom they were delivered according to the receipts in my hands can now be corrected."

There were no grievances to consider, and it seems to be so generally, as M. E. Comp. Staton remarks in closing his admirable report on Correspondence:

"Peace and prosperity has attended the efforts of the Royal Craft all over the United States and Canada. There is not a jurisdiction that has not reported an advance during the year, and no losses anywhere, for which we are devoutly thankful."

He pays tribute to Canada for 1902 in kindly review of our proceedings for that year.

John W. Landrum, Mayfield, Grand High Priest.

Henry B. Grant, Louisville, Grand Secretary.

LOUISIANA

Chapters . . 24

Members . . 1,511

The Fifty-sixth Annual Convocation was opened at New Orleans on the 3rd February, 1903, with an average attendance, twenty-one out of the twenty-four Chapters being represented. The M. E. Grand High Priest, R. W. Allen, delivered an address that was chiefly remarkable for what it omitted to include.

He announced that in his efforts to fulfil his duty he "done all that I could," referred to the "grim Archer" and the "State of the Order," issued dispensations for two new Chapters, and made one decision. There is no record of official visitations, this duty devolving apparently on the Grand Lecturer, who closes his report with:

"I am pleased to report that the present year gives indications of being one of great prosperity for the 'Royal Craft' in our jurisdiction."

There was nothing in the doings of Grand Chapter to interest, other than the Companions thereof.

The Grand Chaplain, Rev. Herman C. Duncan, contributes again the report on Correspondence, which embraces forty-eight most interesting pages of the appendix. In his exordium he observes:

"The jurisdiction of the Craft is gradually solidifying into a compact code, and as the Correspondence Corps is an element in the digestive apparatus that is producing this common law, common in the sense of universal, we make our dutiful contribution of criticism. This is the reason for our comments and this the spirit in which they are evolved—that the accepted precepts may be as just and as true as possible. Many a time the august teaching of our art is clothed in imagery that is beautiful and wonderfully attractive because so beautiful. To reach such language is at once refreshing and an aid to the teachers of the art.

For these causes, therefore, we have quoted such ornate speeches as we have found."

Canada apparently was more practical than ornate, for he dismisses us with ten lines, embraced in which is:

"The report on Correspondence is from the pen of the Grand Scribe E., or the Grand Secretary, R. E. Comp. Geo. J. Bennett. His review of Louisiana is appreciative. Thanks, Companion, for personal allusions. We are not wearied. Our mental vigor is refreshed rather than enervated, and we feel quite equal to **any** bouts that may come our way. Chinese warfare is unpleasant, but it is not deadly."

But he likes it occasionally. In Arkansas he detects an occurrence of the Sir Boyle Roche variety:

"Wonderful are the minds of some of the Arkansas Companions. A letter is published from M. E. Comp. Dannelly stating that his bodily infirmities are such that he is unable to meet with them, and adds, 'Though I cannot be with you in body, be assured, if living, I shall be with you in mind.' And so it must have been, for we find him signing and certifying to the minutes of the Order of High Priests."

The following comment, elicited by a remark on the nomenclature of the chief officers of Ireland's Grand Chapter, will be read with interest:

"It will be observed that the King is the presiding officer. This is in accordance with English methods, and is a general, although not a universal, custom with Grand Chapters of the British Dominions. It is said that our American ancestors, while willing to dedicate their Chapters in the name of a Viceroy, were unwilling to have any one bearing the title even of a King to preside over them, and so organized Capitular Masonry in this country that the High Priest was made presiding officer and the representative of the King was given to sit in the second place in the Council, but in the enumeration of the officers he was placed below the Scribe. Companions will remember that Zerubbabel was the Prince, and the order in which their names is rehearsed is Joshua, Haggai and Zerubbabel. We follow the work, but we do think this last lick is quite an unnecessary and inconvenient piece of American democracy."

There it is, in a nutshell, but had we put the case in the forcible but eminently truthful words of Companion Duncan, the entire corps reportorial would have found a delightful topic to break up the monotony.

"Then rose up Zerubbabel, the son of Shealtiel and Jeshua the

son of Jozadak and began to build the House of God, which is at Jerusalem, and with them were the prophets of God helping them." Ezra 5: 2.

It has frequently been a matter for remark that the United States system of the Royal Arch should have given precedence to the High Priest, when it is made clear throughout the entire Biblical narrative of the second Temple, that Zerubbabel was the leader assisted by the High Priest and supported by the advice and encouragement of Haggai and the prophets. In our own system the placing of Haggai before Joshua is palpably an error. Comp. Duncan's opinion as to why an inferior place was given to the King is probably held by others, but they are not so outspoken. But although Zerubbabel was the lineal descendant of the royal house of David he was at no time dubbed a king. He was the "Prince of the people," however, and their leader as Governor of Judea. His relegation to an inferior position seems to have been the brilliant idea of the great American ritual reformer of the period. How in the name of all that's consistent, that teeming democratic brain failed when remodelling the earlier degrees, to foment a revolt at the building of the first Temple and so place the Tyrian architect in supreme authority as "President," is beyond comprehension. It would have been just as easy for him to drop Solomon and the royal Hiram a peg each, and thus maintain the glorious principles for which he worked and apparently succeeded in his reconstruction of the subsequent degrees.

Zerubbabel, Joshua and Haggai, Prince, High Priest and Prophet (not Scribe), were the chiefs of the Sanhedrim, the first mentioned being accorded full authority by the decree of King Cyrus.

"The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this house, his hands shall also finish it." Zech. 4: 9.

But when the ingenious ritual reformer undertook to change things, the days of kings and princes on his portion of the continent had passed. Hence Companion Duncan's observation, "an unnecessary and inconvenient piece of American democracy."

To a Montana recommendation in connection with the Seven Branch Candlestick as Lesser Lights, that the candlestick be only used in the ceremonies of the Most Excellent Master's degree and Royal Arch degree when the room or a portion thereof is made to represent the sanctum sanctorum or Holy of Holies of King Solomon's Temple," he has something good to say, winding up thus:

"The holding of a council of the rulers of the people in the outer court of the Tabernacle, and the presence there of the candlestick do not conflict with well established historic verities, but a seven branched candlestick within the sanctum sanctorum of King Solomon's Temple in the days of Zerubbabel is like talking of Mr. Roosevelt's taking lunch with Abraham."

Companion Duncan concludes a highly enjoyable and decidedly instructive pamphlet with a continuation of his historical sketch of the early Chapters of Louisiana.

R. W. Allen, Franklin, Grand High Priest.

Richd. Lambert, New Orleans, Grand Secretary.

MAINE

Chapters . . 57

Members . . 6,974

At the convocation held in Portland on May 6th, 1902, the lamented Josiah H. Drummond, P.G.H.P., was present. It was his last. He was called on the 25th October following "as he was walking from his house to his office, his great heart, which had held large place for so wide and so varied interests, and for a multitude of devoted friends, suddenly ceased to beat, and he fell dead."

M. E. Comp. Fred. W. Plaisted, Grand High Priest, presided over this convocation, and congratulated the Companions on "the successful completion of the most prosperous year in the history of Capitular Masonry in this jurisdiction."

He had a case of violation of jurisdiction before him, and it involved some knotty points, which were, however,

amicably adjusted, but present conditions and the old law are in conflict:

“If possible a remedy should be provided for the evil that grows out of our making jurisdiction depend upon distance when railroad facilities are involved. The rapid increase of railroads and especially of trolley lines in this State is, I fear, bound to augment this trouble. As the law now stands I do not see that any departure from ‘the nearest Chapter by the usually traveled route’ as the law of the jurisdiction can be permitted.”

He presided at several public installations, to which Master Masons and the ladies flocked in crowds, in one case “hardly room remained for the performance of the work,” and no wonder:

“Hall’s orchestra furnished music throughout the evening, and several selections were finely rendered by the Utopian quartette. After the installation ceremonies, refreshments were served. Tables were arranged for those who cared to join in a game of whist, while the younger element of the company repaired to the banquet hall, which had been reserved for dancing.”

That’s the kind of ceremony to impress the girls, and of course public installations are held to create an impression.

In February he visited Eastern Chapter, at Eastport, the easternmost Masonic body in the United States. Eastern Chapter received its charter from the Grand Chapter of Maine, May 3, 1855, and of the nine charter members only one, Dr. R. B. Patterson, survives, and he was present at this convocation. All the charter members received the Royal Arch degree in the Chapter of Lodge No. 315, located at St. Andrews, New Brunswick, which was under the jurisdiction of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Ireland.

In the report of the Deputy Grand High Priest he includes an account of his visit to the Chapter at Hallowell:

“The Book of Marks contains many beautiful designs, finely executed, and is doubly prized by the Companions because it has the original mark of Past High Priest Drummond.”

The system of inspection was well carried out by the officers deputed for that purpose, and their reports are most interesting.

The Correspondence report was prepared by M. E. Companion Drummond, and was undoubtedly his last Masonic utterance. It was his thirty-sixth report on Correspondence in this Grand Body.

Canada for 1902 had received from him over two pages. He specially noted the address of Grand Chapter to the King:

“It was executed splendidly on four pages, and a half tone of each of them is given in the Proceedings, and it is certainly one of the most beautiful and finely executed pieces of work of the kind that we ever saw.”

He agreed with us on the dependent membership question:

“Of the attempted guardianship of the Lodge by the Chapter, he well says:

“And we respectfully reiterate the statement that it is inconsistent for one government to legislate for the subjects of another, separate and distinct. The advisability and sentiment of the contentions are on a totally different pedestal. They may be looked up to and admired, but they are not to be bowed down to and worshipped.”

“He very properly also defends the practice of taking bonds from secretaries and treasurers, holding that practically there is a business end to our organization as well as a Masonic end, and that the business should be done in accordance with business methods.

“We observe in this report a little softening of the prejudice of our Companion against the General Grand Chapter, but it looks to us as if there were room for further progress in this direction.”

Howard D. Smith, Norway, Grand High Priest.

Stephen Berry, Portland, Grand Secretary.

1903.

Chapters .. 57

Members .. 7,287

The Seventy-eighth Annual Convocation was held as formerly at Portland on the 5th May, 1903, M. E. Howard D. Smith, Grand High Priest, presiding:

“It affords me great pleasure, as it must every Royal Arch Mason, to see so many of the representative men of the State, men who are famous in business, in the law and in the church, meeting together for one end, the advancement of Masonry.”

Most feelingly he alluded to the deaths of Past Grand High Priests Burnham and Drummond. The former had long been a familiar figure. For nearly fifty years he was a constant attendant on all the Grand Bodies, and was an earnest and conscientious worker. He had been at the head of all the Grand Bodies of the State. To Companion Drummond's unceasing devotion and great ability he paid deserved tribute:

“No one ever doubted his word or questioned his integrity. The fact that he approved a measure or made a decision was enough to stamp it with the seal of truth. The knowledge with which his memory was stored was so placed and classified that it could be used at any and every call with surpassing effect. An earnest student in Masonry, he was devoted to its sublime teachings, a master as to the power and the meanings of its laws. No eloquent tributes, no monument or marble statue can adequately acknowledge his services to the Freemasonry of this continent.”

In the course of his address he observed that “the old question of admitting clergymen without fee came up in new and unexpected ways. A Chapter revised its by-laws, making the fee for clergymen three dollars. The amendment was not approved, and returned with the following answer: The constitution of the Grand Chapter fixes a minimum sum which all candidates must pay for the degrees, and does not make any exception in favor of clergymen. In 1868 it was decided that the ‘Chapters are not authorized to confer degrees on clergymen without fee.’” Now it may be argued the three dollars is a fee, which is true, but it is not the fee established by this Grand Chapter.”

“The Grand Chapter has fixed a minimum fee of twenty dollars which all candidates must pay for the degrees. I presume it might admit clergymen without fee by changing the constitution, and so it might make a law to admit carpenters without fee, but I doubt very much if it would be ‘good law.’ While Chapters have an undoubted right to vote their funds to members in need of charity, whether clergymen or otherwise, I do not think it would be proper to vote the fees of a candidate in the way that you propose. It savors too much of the old saying, ‘whipping the devil around

the stump.' As the constitution now stands, clergymen can only be admitted on the same terms as other candidates."

Concluding, he sounded a note of warning, the echo of which might be heard with advantage elsewhere:

"I feel that we have reason for congratulation at the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in this jurisdiction. Almost without exception the Chapters are in a highly prosperous condition. The gain in membership is the largest for years. In fact, Masonry was never more popular than it is to-day, so popular that it behooves us to exercise the utmost care in the admission of candidates."

A petition for a dispensation for a new Chapter in the town of Sedgwick, to be called Minnewaukon Chapter, signed by thirteen Companions, was presented.

Companion Herbert Harris succeeds the lamented Drummond as Chairman of Correspondence, and modestly submits his first report, which bears the test of the overseer's square throughout. His review of Canada was extensive, embracing nearly five pages. He, like his illustrious predecessor, is impressed with our system of Chapter inspection:

"As usual, the largest part, and in some ways the most important part, of these Proceedings is made up of the reports of the Grand Superintendents, eighteen in number, showing these Companions to be zealous and faithful in their work; if a Chapter is feeble, or its members begin to lose their zeal, a visit from the Superintendent soon puts new life into them; if there is some special cause of trouble, he investigates and helps to set it right; in some cases five or six visits to a single Chapter are recorded. Some idea of the size of the districts is gained from the fact that, in a district of only four Chapters, the Superintendent traveled 1,800 miles in order to visit three of them. This frequent inspection bears fruit in the vigorous condition of the Chapters; in one district of five Chapters only thirteen members were found who were one year in arrears."

He was quick to recognize that notable achievement of the "linotype," seconded by the "devil," notwithstanding a re-revise. What can one do but go out into the cold world and weep?

"According to the report of the elections, Comp. Bennett, Grand Secretary, has been promoted to the position of Grand Janitor; we hope these 'blushing honors' will not influence him to give up his duties as Grand Secretary and Correspondent."

That dependent membership is not to his fancy, is gathered from his quotation of us in reply to Comp. Hodson, of Oregon. We acknowledge the compliment.

“We make no apology for giving the greater part of his remarks, under Oregon, on dependent membership; we have elsewhere noticed Comp. Hodson’s deliverance on the subject, but Comp. Bennett’s reply is so much better than we could make, that we want our Companions to read it.”

But he has a word to say himself when reviewing Oregon on this Masonic “union label” legislation, which will appeal to those who value the principle of freedom in thought and action inculcated in the primary degrees:

“But when he implies that these ‘cold-blooded, white-livered sneaks’ are the only ones touched by the modern legislation, and says it never caught ‘the faithful brother, who stands ready to perform his duty,’ it seems to us that he puts it rather strongly; we think it entirely possible for a worthy brother to have satisfactory reasons for preferring to retain membership in Chapter or Commandery and to give up that in the Lodge, and this while feeling the most profound respect and affection for that organization which is the foundation of all Masonry. It is, of course, possible that the brethren so vigorously described above, constitute the greater number of those touched by the new laws; but, even if so, such as they are of no use to a Lodge except in the matter of dues; and the Lodge fund is usually larger in proportion to expenses than that of the other bodies. We can conceive of no advantage, to any Masonic body, sufficient to offset the injustice of interfering with the ancient right of a Mason to remain a non-affiliate if he so chooses.”

Howard D. Smith, Norway, Grand High Priest.

Stephen Berry, Portland, Grand Secretary.

MARYLAND

Chapters . . 21

Members . . 2,244

“Peace and harmony prevail within our borders, and I am pleased to report that not a single grievance has been brought to my attention.”

Pleasant words for the Companions at the One Hundred and Fifth Annual Convocation in Baltimore on the 11th November, 1902. But Grand High Priest Clark

had to announce that death had claimed two of their number, who could ill be spared:

“Past Grand High Priest William Henry Shryock and Past General Grand High Priest George L. McCahan have entered through the gates into the city which hath foundations whose maker and builder is God.”

He made a number of visitations, issued a few dispensations, paid tribute to the devotion and zeal of the Grand Secretary and Grand Lecturer, and was not given the opportunity to record a single decision. He closed with the following wise counsel:

“Permit me in conclusion, to caution you to ever bear in remembrance, that Masonry demands the performance of no duty, the practice of no principle, that is extravagant or impracticable; but it does demand in the most solemn manner that we should, to the best of our ability, endeavor to correct each others failings by advice, admonition and reproof, whether that failing be ignorance, vice or prejudice, and that we should to the utmost of our power promote the great end of our Institution with fervency, zeal and fidelity, and until these are our distinguishing characteristics, we can not expect to conform to the principles of our Order or fulfil our obligations as Masons.”

The Committee, however, thought he might have improved upon his official record:

“Your Committee regrets much that circumstances have rendered it impossible for the Grand High Priest to visit all the subordinate Chapters, as one regards these visits of great importance, serving as they do to keep the Chapters in touch with the Grand Officers and Grand Chapter.”

The Committees on Grievances and Unfinished Business reported that nothing had been submitted to them for consideration.

The latest is, apparently, not always the best, as the Grand Secretary was ordered to call in the red book that was issued in 1897, and which contains the ceremonies of installation, etc., and replace same with the issue of 1884.

A despatch was received from the Grand Chapter of West Virginia, conveying greetings, announcing that Maryland's representative there had been elected Grand High Priest. By a singular coincidence, West Virginia's

representative in Maryland was the choice of his Grand Chapter for the same high office, and the reply was at once wired:

“Our newly elected and installed Grand High Priest is the Grand Representative of the Grand Chapter of West Virginia near that of Maryland—in other words, the Grand Representative of each Grand Chapter was elected and installed about the same hour to preside over the destinies of the other for the ensuing year.”

M. E. Comp. E. T. Schultz, the veteran Correspondent, whose recovery from affected vision we trust is in the near future, furnishes, as usual, the annual review of the Grand Chapters, making fraternal mention of Canada for 1902.

He is an opponent of the “union label” in Masonry, otherwise the dependent membership doctrine, and comes out flatfooted against it:

“If all that the advocates of this doctrine claim, will result, by the adoption of the Grand Encampment regulation, we would still advocate its repeal, because it is a matter over which it has no right to legislate. Membership in Lodge, Chapter or Commandery is wholly a voluntary matter, as we have more than once said, no Grand Lodge, Grand Chapter or Grand Commandery can rightfully legislate otherwise.”

J. James Foble, Cambridge, Grand High Priest.

John H. Miller, Baltimore, Grand Secretary.

MASSACHUSETTS

Chapters . . 76

Members . . 16,940

The usual quarterly convocations preceded the One Hundred and Fourth Annual held in Boston, Dec. 9, 1902. At the first, the death of Thos. Waterman, M.D., Past Grand High Priest, brought out an appropriate memorial report from the Committee:

“That the son of one who for over thirty years was the Secretary of this Grand Chapter should early become interested in Masonry and its teaching can excite no wonder. Accustomed as a boy to meet in his home those Fathers of the Institution who were its support during the anti-Masonic bitterness, it would

indeed have been strange had he not early become connected with that Fraternity of which his father was so distinguished a member."

The Most Excellent Grand High Priest, at the third quarterly, alluded fittingly to the death of two of the permanent members of Grand Chapter: Companions Charles T. Chase, of Haverhill, Past Grand Scribe, 1893, and Charles H. Norris, of Salem, Past Grand Scribe, 1868.

The custom which has obtained at the Annual Convocation in former years was practised by the Grand Lecturers in the exemplification of the degrees. The same custom of rendering the lecture appropriate to each degree at the close of its exemplification was also observed, the Grand Lecturer presiding for the time interrogating and his associate responding.

It wasn't a case of "all work and no play" either, for at the conclusion of the Most Excellent Degree an intermission was declared. A procession was formed and the Companions marched to the banquet hall, where a substantial lunch had been prepared by the Grand Chapter. They were thus prepared for "exaltation."

Grand High Priest Samuel F. Hubbard appears to have been fully sensible of his high responsibility:

"The prosperity and harmony which prevailed among all the Chapters of this Commonwealth, on my accession to office, I am happy to report, still continue.

"The spirit of loyalty, earnestness of purpose, and the desire to carry our standard to the fore show no abatement.

"These five talents I return to you intact and although I do not bring you five other talents, I hope I may be credited with, at least, so much sincerity of purpose that it may not be said of me 'he went and hid thy talent in the earth.'

"District Grand Chapters of Instruction were opened in every district in the State with two exceptions. I was present at eight of them and was thus afforded an opportunity to observe their value."

He evidently was "up against" the wooden man at some of these gatherings, for he was apparently impress-

ed the other way. How true his words will be admitted by those who have "been there" themselves:

"These exemplifications have their limitations, however. They can give instruction in the ritual and mode of work, but they cannot give that training in expression which is necessary to convey, in an impressive way, the moral lessons of the degrees. Work may be letter perfect and yet be so bad as to fail utterly to accomplish its purpose. Good work demands a careful, thoughtful study of the lines and a proper and effective oral delivery."

The wisdom of continuing the quarterly convocations seems to have been a matter of discussion owing to sparse attendance:

"I quite agree with that conservatism which says, 'Prove all things and hold fast that which is good,' yet, if it can be shown that the interests of this Grand Chapter can be served as well, not to say better, by having two Convocations a year instead of four, then it may be good judgment to make the change, but not otherwise."

He is an advocate of the social side of things, and believes in "having an evening when ladies and other invited guests can come together and share the hospitality of the Chapter."

"We need to touch elbows, to get into closer, warmer and more sympathetic relations with each other if we would exercise that charity which suffereth long and is kind. Many of the differences which keep men and nations apart and make them hostile to each other would fade out and disappear altogether if a mutual acquaintance could be established."

To the acknowledged privilege accorded the Chapters of working all degrees upon the same occasion and of enjoying a limitless number of candidates upon whom those degrees may be worked at the same time, he is firmly opposed. "Instead of facilitating the rapid passage of an unlimited number of candidates through all of the degrees in the shortest possible time, the Grand Lodge calls a halt, and bids them wait until the moral lessons have had time to become assimilated. That which can be had with little effort is ever considered of less value than that which is bought with a price, not of money, but of time and earnest work."

“Much has been said and written about the lighter esteem in which the Chapter is held as compared with the Commandery. There is no disguising the fact that some, I will not say many, view the Chapter as an obstruction, as a sort of toll-gate across the great highway of Masonry. A man to whom I was introduced a short time since, in reply to the question, ‘To what Chapter do you belong?’ said to me, ‘Really, I don’t remember. You see I was after the Commandery degrees and I did not give much thought to the Chapter. In fact, I don’t know that I have been in the Chapter since.’

“We stoutly assert that Capitular Masonry is a peer among its equals, that it is not an appendage to any other body, but an integral unit in the great brotherhood of Masonry.”

Companion J. Gilman Waite furnishes a most entertaining and instructive review of sister Grand Chapter proceedings. He had Canada for 1902 under his eye, and quotes Grand Z. Gibson on the responsibilities of Grand Representatives, and the writer on “dependent membership” and other topics. Under Kentucky a question of dependent membership elicits from him the following, which we heartily commend as a weapon against the “blue label”:

“We never get through a Review without feeling a sense of rejoicing that our Lodge, Chapter and Council Constitutions are not dovetailed into each other, and that each can, and does, manage its own affairs independently, and without leaning up against the other.”

Samuel F. Hubbard, Boston, Grand High Priest.

J. Gilman Waite, Boston, Grand Secretary.

MICHIGAN

Chapters . . 138

Members . . 14,984

The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Michigan, met in the Masonic Temple, in the City of Detroit, on Tuesday, Jan. 20, 1903, and at high twelve the Grand High Priest called the members to order for the purpose of opening the Fifty-fifth Annual Convocation.

Grand High Priest Charles L. Stevens, notwithstand-

ing a twelvemonth's "appalling list of calamities," was able to congratulate his Companions upon "an era of unparalleled prosperity."

"One of the greatest and most prolonged conflicts between organized labor and organized capital has through the mediation of a brother Mason, even Brother Theodore Roosevelt, President of the United States, been submitted to arbitration, to the result of which the world looks for the triumph of the principles of our art."

On December 13th there passed away "one of those faithful, modest workers who do much for Masonry and do it unostentatiously." John Jex Bardwell, Past Deputy Grand High Priest, died alone in the little cottage in Detroit in which he chose to live, without other companionship than his books and pictures and the call of an occasional friend. He was the oldest photographer in Detroit, and one of the oldest in the country, and contributed improvements of great value to his art without fee or reward. He was born in England, came to the United States when nineteen and passed most of his life from then in Detroit, where he died at the age of 79 years.

He issued a dispensation for a new Chapter at Springport, Jackson County, and another at Sanilac Center.

He decided against the application of a brother who had lost the fourth or little finger and part of the third finger of the right hand as not being physically competent to receive the Chapter degrees.

Permission was also asked to communicate the Mark, Past, Most Excellent and Royal Arch Degrees to a brother who had broken his hip and could walk only with the aid of crutches, and was about to return to missionary work in India. This also was declined.

The people of Gratiot County extended to the Grand Chapter, through the local Chapter, an invitation to place the cope stone of the new Court House for that county at the time of the dedication of the building, but as he could find no authority whatever for the Grand

Chapter, as such, taking any part in the laying of corner-stones, dedications, or any occasion similar to the one mentioned, he was forced to decline the honor.

He was active in visitation, and gave merited testimony to the devotion and earnestness of the Grand Lecturer.

Feelingly, too, he referred to the sore affliction which visited the home of Grand Secretary Conover by the death of his life's partner:

In addition to this, Companion Conover himself has been seriously ill several times, has suffered the loss of some of his property by fire, and his cup seemed already full when this last great sorrow came to him, and the faithful companion of his joys and sorrows for forty years, was taken from him; and that her last words, "My dear, you'll be very lonely," are only too true, goes without saying. Our hearts go out to our Companion in deepest sympathy.

Companion Conover's report, in view of the bereavement which Grand Chapter was in two short months to experience, is most touching. After referring to the manner in which he assumed the Grand Secretaryship on the death of Companion Innes, he proceeds:

"And, with one lingering, regretful look backward, I turned resolutely to the future and entered into the work that lay before me."

"In the years that have so rapidly flown since then I have always faithfully striven to do my whole duty to this Grand Chapter, and I hope my labors have met your approval."

"The last year has been the most trying one of my whole life. My own health has not been good for most of the year, and soon after our last annual Convocation, I was called to California, by the serious illness of my wife, who was spending the winter there in hopes of benefiting her impaired health. After a number of weeks I was able to get her home, and during the summer she improved so much that our family physician assured me that she probably would be spared to us for some years. But God decreed otherwise. In October she was again taken seriously ill and ten minutes after the ushering in of Christmas morning, she was taken away and I was left heart-stricken by the loss, which, after nearly forty years of faithful and loving companionship, means much to me. The following lines express my heart's feelings better than any words of my own:

BEREFT.

“I passed the window where she used to sit,
 With quickened step: I knew she was not there;
 This was the time her lamp was always lit,
 And she sat busy with her needle's care
 For those she loved; and oft, by happy chance,
 She would look down and give me cheery glance.

“Such busy hands! Such tender, loving heart
 That made of service, crown and happiness!
 Her sunny glance helped me to do my part,
 With more desire to lighten and to bless,
 Those the dear Father gives into my care.
 With whom the joys and griefs of life I share.

“All undisturbed by anxious fear or care
 Her faithful love gives holy service yet;
 The heaven that holds her we shall long to share;
 In its clear light, O heavenly Father, let
 Our love for her in its deep truth appear,
 Unstained by all its selfish blemish here.

“But oh! ‘the vanished hand,’ the sweet ‘stilled voice!’
 For us the bitter loss, for her the gain!
 In all her peace and rest I would rejoice;
 But as I homeward pass, her window's pane
 Will have no light for me, no happy smile;
 Ah! I must pass some other way awhile!”

God willed it that they were not to be separated long. On the 21st of February following he went to Ann Arbor to undergo an operation for gall stones, but the relief was temporary only, and on the 5th of April Jefferson S. Conover entered into rest, rejoining the faithful partner of his life's journey, for whom he had so sincerely mourned.

That Canada grieved when the tidings were announced goes without saying, for Canada knew him, and the writer, who had the privilege of his acquaintance, can cordially agree with the Grand High Priest's testimony to the worth of the departed Grand Secretary:

“No Mason in Michigan was more revered among his brethren than he, for nobility of character, fraternal zeal and loving gentleness of heart. Stalwart of body, courageous in mind, indefatigable in the discharge of the duties of his Masonic relations, he was a noble, courteous Christian gentleman, who so lived that the world was the better for his having lived therein.”

Seventeen Chapter had failed to comply with the law in not having their returns in the Grand Secretary's office before the time limit, thereby depriving their representatives of their per diem and mileage. After a number of excuses and some discussion, on motion of the Finance Committee the offending Chapters were excused for this time and cautioned to be more careful in the future.

It was resolved, "That as a just recognition of his services to this Grand Chapter, and as a reward to which he is entitled, Companion Jefferson S. Conover be and is hereby created an Honorary Past Grand High Priest, with all the rights and benefits belonging to those who have regularly presided over this Grand Chapter, and that the incoming Grand High Priest be and is hereby directed to procure and present to him a Past Grand High Priest's jewel." Alas! he did not long enjoy the honor.

The Grand Secretary having been instructed to prepare the usual review of the printed proceedings of other Grand Jurisdictions, he deputed his son, Companion Charles Conover, to the work, and his initial essay gives promise of future excellent results:

"Being held responsible for the work I also took the responsibility of delegating the labor part of the review to other hands and introduce a new worker in the vineyard."

He is assured of a welcome, and while he modestly refrains from expressing his own views on certain points of discussion, there is evidence enough to indicate that he possesses them, and that we will hear from Michigan in due course.

Horace S. Maynard, Charlotte, Grand High Priest.

Charles A. Conover, Coldwater, Grand Secretary.

MINNESOTA

Chapters . . 63

Members . . 5,834

The Forty-second Annual Convocation was held in

the Masonic Hall, St. Paul, on the 13th October, 1903, and on the 13th November following we are perusing the printed Proceedings. This speedy work has only been equalled by one other Grand Secretary. The example might well be emulated, for it tends to maintain and keep alive the enthusiasm of the Companions.

M. E. Comp. Nathan Kingsley, General Grand Scribe of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, being present, the Grand High Priest directed all Past Grand High Priests present to escort him to the altar. This was done, and Companion Montgomery on their behalf presented the distinguished Companion to the Grand High Priest and he to the Grand Chapter in fitting terms, first escorting him to the Grand East and giving him the Grand honors.

Now who will say that the General Grand is superfluous? Were it not for its existence the M. E. Companion who was thus distinguished would have been among the "has beens."

"Peace, concord and prosperity reign within our beloved Order all over this grand State, now no longer upon the frontier, but in the very heart of the highest civilization, culture and wealth."

In common with his colleagues, Grand High Priest Corliss takes his text from the same volume.

He took a week off for visitations, winding up the tour at Willmar, where the ladies of the Eastern Star served a fine banquet:

"We returned home Saturday evening feeling well repaid for our long trip. We lost some sleep, but were never hungry, as each Chapter served bounteous refreshments."

The ladies again, bless them. It was worth going out from Monday to Saturday to get a send-home like that.

Minnesota goes on record in favor of the peg leg. The Grand High Priest had decided against an applicant who, after being accepted, lost a limb, and desired to have the degrees communicated, as he was unable to go through the ceremony in the ordinary way. The

Committee approved, but added the following rider, which was adopted:

“Your committee are of opinion that a Master Mason in good standing who has lost a leg, but who has been supplied with an artificial leg, and who thereby is capable of conforming to all the rites and ceremonies of a Chapter, is eligible to receive the degrees conferred therein.”

Grand Secretary Montgomery is, of course, the reviewer, as he has been for fourteen years. While his journey over Canada for 1903 was rapid, he contrived to cover the territory, and gives his impressions as from an observation car. His views of other jurisdictions are on the same lightning express plan. But he had been to Little Rock, and if any lingering doubt remains with any Companion as to the General Grand's *raison d'être*, let him peruse Montgomery:

“Nearly all the Grand Chapters were represented. The weather was fine, and the Companions and the ladies accompanying them enjoyed every hour of their stay among the hospitable people of the ‘City of Roses.’ A grand reception and entertainment was tendered the members and their ladies on Tuesday evening at the beautiful new building of Albert Pike Consistory Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. A trolley ride over the city was given Wednesday. On Thursday a special train took 200 or more to Scott's cotton plantation, thirteen miles out, where all had the privilege of witnessing the growing cotton, and its being picked, ginned and baled for market. While there all were served with an old fashioned Southern barbecue, and treated to music and dancing by a colored quartette. On Friday another special train took all who desired to go to Hot Springs, where they were given a tally-ho drive over the mountain roads on the government reservation, and a chance to see the various bath houses and the Ostrich Farm in the vicinity. A banquet, reception and ball was the feature of the evening. The address of M. E. Comp. James W. Taylor, General Grand High Priest, filled 38 pages.”

John Fishel, St. Paul, Grand High Priest.

Thos. Montgomery, St. Paul, Grand Secretary.

MISSISSIPPI

Chapters . . 70

Members . . 2,443

Portraits of the outgoing and incoming Grand High

Priests are in the forefront of the volume to hand. To the cares of office may be attributed the gravity of aspect in the former, while glad anticipation is probably responsible for the smile worn by the latter. He also wears a huge Shrine decoration, which does not improve the picture as an artistic whole. However, if the Companion enjoys carrying the bauble nobody else has a right to complain.

It was the Fifty-fifth Annual, held in the City of Biloxi, on February 18th last, and a distinguished visitor on the occasion was Most Excellent Companion John G. Harris, Past Grand High Priest of Alabama.

Grand High Priest Myers, having briefly remarked that the familiar "wheel of time" had made "one more turn," touches on the place of meeting, "the City of Biloxi":

"This beautiful city by the sea; a city made historic on account of the fact that in the Month of February A.D., 1699, just 204 years ago, D'Iberville under the Lilies of France, anchored his squadron just three leagues south of us, in the land locked harbor of Ship Island, and built here on this bluff, a little to the east of where we now stand, Fort Biloxi, and there established the first permanent settlement ever made on Mississippi soil, and from the gigantic pines of the virgin forest that surrounded this spot, were hewn the timbers with which they built the first block houses and wall of the fort."

He appointed proxies to constitute three Chapters U. D., and issued a dispensation for a new Chapter at Lauderdale. These and a number of permissions to ballot out of time, about comprise the official record. Concluding his brief address, the Grand High Priest says: "I wish to say that my duties during the year have been exceedingly pleasant." The Companions no doubt were indisposed to combat the statement.

The Grand Secretary reported that an unusually voluminous correspondence has taken place between him and members of defunct Chapters, seeking to regain their status in Royal Arch Masonry.

A communication from a Most Excellent Companion was read, regretting his enforced absence from the con-

vocation of the Grand Chapter, in consequence of a considerable portion of his store having been unroofed on the previous Sunday night.

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals reported that no appeals had been taken, nor complaints made during the year.

The Finance Committee's attention was called to the necessity that requires the Grand Secretary to employ a stenographer in the performance of the manifold duties of his office and the inadequacy of the salary allowed him by this Grand Body, and that body forthwith recommended a raise of five hundred dollars.

The Committee on Necrology paid extensive tribute to the giants in Masonry who had fallen, and incidentally dwelt on the necessity for emulating their zeal for Masonic research:

“To rightly understand it, it is necessary to become familiar with its distinguishing characteristics and it is the very presumption of ignorance to call a man a ‘bright’ Mason, who has not become well versed in the history, philosophy, ethics, symbolism, laws, usages and customs of the Craft, and to arrive at this, he must know their origin, growth and development. One may have phrases at his tongue’s end and be capable of repeating with exactitude, lectures and ceremonies, but unless he can form some idea of the hidden meaning, for all Masonic rituals conceal more than they reveal, of that with which he has stored his mind, much will ever remain to him but a confused babel of sounds or at least, lead to a radical misconception of what they really teach. And it is not only so in regard to ritual but also as to the principles upon which Masonic government is based.

“While Masonry is the foundation upon which some modern societies are based, there is between it and them the difference which exists between a law created by legislative enactment and one which comes down to us from the remote past and which is founded upon the customs of the people amongst whom it originated. In the construction of the former, we look only to the words in which it is expressed, while the real meaning of the latter is only to be found in knowledge of a custom which it endeavors to perpetuate, in the written law. These societies have no customs and hence no precedents, while all Masonry is the result of practices which have prevailed with it from the beginning and is regulated entirely by precedent, that is to say, there can be no law in Masonry which is contrary to its ancient and undeviating customs.”

A sixty-four page report on Correspondence is furnished by the veteran reviewer, M. E. Companion P. M. Savery, in which Canada for 1902 receives courteous notice.

Oliver Lee McKay, Meridian, Grand High Priest.

Frederick Speed, Vicksburg, Grand Secretary.

MISSOURI

Chapters .. 99

Members .. 8,437

In the banqueting hall of the St. Nicholas Hotel, in the City of St. Louis, on Wednesday, April 22, 1903, the Fifty-seventh Annual Convocation was opened at 9 a.m., and John T. Ruffin, M. E. Grand High Priest, in the gladness of his heart, announced that:

“St. Louis, and our most beloved State of Missouri, are now the centre of attraction over the whole world. In every branch of industry, in literature, art and commerce, we are able truthfully to say Missouri is the equal, if not the greatest amid the galaxy of magnificent commonwealths.”

There is no mud on Missouri now, and the Royal Arch is keeping pace with the other arts in “our most beloved State,” for over five hundred of a net gain was also a matter of record.

He thought that Chapters too poor to invite the Grand Lecturer should not be passed over. If they needed instruction, they should get it at the expense of Grand Chapter.

The reports of the Masonic Home are most interesting. Sixty-five old people and seventy-nine children are cared for in the institution.

Judge Givan, the President, stated that the Grand Chapter of the Eastern Star of Missouri had co-operated in the maintenance and support of the Home. Already \$3,000 had been turned over to the Home by the Grand Chapter, and in addition that body had contributed a considerable sum for repairs and re-seating of the Home chapel.

If the ladies of the Eastern Star elsewhere will engage in similar work, everyone will rejoice in the organization. Of such is woman's mission:

"Under the mutual arrangement made between the Board and the Grand Chapter the latter is entitled to two lady advisory members of the Board of Directors. They have the privilege and it is made their duty to attend the meetings of the Board and to advise in regard to the management of the Home. The Grand Chapter appointed as such advisory members, Mrs. Lillie Fletcher of St. Louis and Mrs. Mattie B. Barney of Chillicothe, Mo. Their presence at the sessions of the Board are proving very pleasant and profitable. Many phases of the management of the Home can only be examined by ladies, and their services are proving of great value to us."

As it should be. Reading the above one is willing to forget the funny but unpleasant publicity given to certain doings in New York, when the brothers and sisters in "lodge" indulged in very "ungentlemanly" behavior, and forgetting the fraternal amenities, aired their differences in the Police Court. It recalls the unlucky swain's apostrophe to the fair sex when he found himself the victim of a fickle damsel:

"Oh the gladness of their gladness when they're glad,
And the sadness of their sadness when they're sad.
But the gladness of their gladness and the sadness of their
sadness,
Is as nothing to their badness when they're bad."

The matron's report was a delightfully refreshing document, thoroughly womanly:

"My report is not to be one of business. You men are capable of looking after that and I am perfectly willing that you should. However, I feel that you busy men are missing a great deal in not knowing personally the members of the large family for which you are caring, and it will be a pleasure to me indeed to give you a glimpse of Home life now and then."

"First, let me say that I would rather be Matron of the Masonic Home than President of the Board. You may claim the honor of your office, Judge Givan, but while mine is not so enviable, perhaps, it is so sacred and dear to me that I would not exchange it for yours. To be entrusted with the comfort and welfare of so many is certainly a God-given opportunity."

The right woman in the right place. She then proceeds to give some details of the youngsters' progress:

"To see their minds become more interested in that which will be a strength and safeguard to them when they leave the protection of the Home and are compelled to face every form of sin and temptation, is to me the reward for whatever of sacrifice we may be called upon to make. Even little Willie, our baby boy, has caught the spirit, for in his play one day he was thinking of his old nurse who has died since she left the Home. He rapped on the heater and called, 'Hello central, is this Dod's house? If it is and he's in, will you tell him to send Huteline down to the 'Sonic Home, 'tause I want to see her.' "

All Companions in attendance upon the Grand Chapter and their lady friends were invited by the Superintendent to visit the Home and be present at an entertainment given by the children inmates on the Wednesday afternoon.

The Grand Lecturer forcibly pointed out in his report the necessity for taking action with regard to Chapters needing instruction, but unable to meet the "price":

"Dread of expense on the part of some of them, apathy in others, and failure of this Grand Body to apply a stimulus in time, may cause necessity of terminating their existence in the near future."

"The condition that confronts us presents this Grand Body in the situation of bringing into existence off-spring for which it takes no further care, and permitting its aged constituents to die of neglect or becoming paralytics and imbeciles."

An amendment to the by-laws designed to meet the difficulty failed to influence the Jurisprudence Committee, the members of which, however, were of the opinion that "some change should be made."

Several amendments to the law concerning the duties and compensation of the Grand Lecturer were offered, seconded and discussed at length, when finally the whole subject was referred to a Special Committee, to be named by the Grand High Priest-elect, said Committee to report a revision of the law concerning Grand Lecturer at the next Annual Convocation.

Companion W. H. Mayo, Grand Secretary, contributed the Correspondence report, in which Canada for 1902 is given a generous show with the other "Foreigners" and late comers.

Robt. E. Bainbridge, Kansas City, Grand High Priest.

Wm. H. Mayo, St. Louis, Grand Secretary.

MONTANA

Chapters .. 16

Members .. 957

The City of Butte was honored with the visit of all the Grand Bodies this year, and the "magnificent" new Masonic Temple, which was dedicated by the Grand Lodge, was their temporary home:

"The whole building from basement to attic is used for Masonic purposes and nothing is omitted to provide ample accommodations for each and every one of the masonic bodies, including the Scottish Rite and Eastern Star."

They will make that feminine organization a "Masonic body" in spite of all protest.

Grand Chapter met on Tuesday, 16th September, 1902, and over its deliberations presided George T. Slack, M. E. Grand High Priest.

"To gratify a personal curiosity which will attach to one who has won such distinction among our craft, we will add some information as to his personal history. On his father's side his ancestry is Holland Dutch, on his mother's side Scotch-Irish."

Not a bad blend with a judicious admixture of sugar, lemon and hot water.

"His great grandfather, Uriah Slack, was a revolutionary patriot, one most prominently instrumental in assisting to get Washington and his army across the Delaware River the night before the battle of Trenton where a thousand Hessians were captured, their commander, Hall, killed, with 17 others, and the loss of only 4 Americans, two of whom were frozen to death. His father, John Slack, was a staunch Union man, who worked hard to keep his native State from seceding in 1861."

If any further doubts are entertained as to Montana's claims to distinction, they should now be dispelled.

But "Peace hath her victories no less renowned than war," and Companion Slack achieved much credit for

his wise rulership. He was a good visitor, and noted many imperfections:

"It is impossible for the Grand High Priest to devote the whole year to visitation and re-visitation. Were it possible for him to do so, this might solve the matter. But as a rule they are busy men, and if they can visit each Chapter in the jurisdiction once during their term, they do well."

Indeed they do, but they don't—a paradoxical condition of affairs that will, like the Sister Ann problem, work out straight, if time enough is devoted to it:

"We commend the Most Excellent Grand High Priest upon the faithful manner in which he has discharged the duties of his office, and would call especial attention of the officers of Chapters to the remarks of the Most Excellent upon the apathy prevailing amongst members and officers."

And thus the slate is wiped clean once more.

Grand Secretary Hedges, though battling with rheumatism, declined to grasp any other weapon but the trusty pen in reviewing the Grand Chapters. His contempt for the scissors is deep-rooted, but he covers the ground admirably. Noting the attendance at Canada's 1902 Convocation, he says:

"When we think that this jurisdiction covers nearly one-half the continent of North America, we shall call this a pretty good representation without any mileage and per diem inducements."

"Ezra the Scribe or, as we should call him, Grand Secretary Bennett, gives us another entertainment under the head of correspondence. In opening he speaks very nicely of the death of our President. As we joined in sorrow at the death of the good Queen, so we rejoice in the conclusion of the Boer war. The aftermath is going to be considerable as it was to our war with Spain. We hope the Court of Arbitration at the Hague will soon become a popular tribunal for the settlement of these disputes."

Under Iowa, he has this to say of the rotation in office system:

"None will pretend that the system is perfect, but if those placed in office are prompt, diligent, faithful, it is certainly a strong argument in favor of advancement, which should always be by merit, and how better can merit be shown than by the way the duties of lower stations are filled. Too rigid adherence to

any system is inadvisable. Some who fill inferior stations admirably are totally unfit for the highest and most responsible stations, just as in the army. It took a long time and at heavy sacrifice to find generals in our Civil War who could be trusted with an independent command. Officers should be chosen for the duties they have to perform. It needs character as well as skill."

The continued obstinacy of Texas in declining to come in under the plaidie of General Grand Chapter, induces Companion Hedges to pause and think it over. His opinion slips out in the following lines:

"The only field in which General Grand Chapter finds an unfettered field of action is in States and Territories that have not yet formed a Grand Chapter. No wonder the question of 'cui bono' so often arises. Who is benefitted in keeping up General Grand Chapter? Is there enough in the pleasant social meetings once in three years, and the honors of a few national offices without corresponding authority or emolument to justify the expense?"

Yet it has been there for over a century, and will probably stay for another, notwithstanding its merely ornamental character. Companion Hedges charitably sees a reason for its existence:

"We have attended two of its Triennials and must say that we enjoyed them full as much as the Templar Triennials, for the reason that there is so little to do that one can cultivate companionship with little or no interruption. There is nothing to do but to enjoy one's self."

Emil H. Lenisch, Butte, Grand High Priest.

Cornelius Hedges, Helena, Grand Secretary.

NEBRASKA

Chapters . . 53

Members . . 3,143

"The returns from our chartered Chapters show a net increase of one hundred and ten. Most of our Chapters have done some work, and some of them have enjoyed the largest measure of prosperity experienced for a number of years. There is no known discord either among our Chapters or our members. Peace and harmony prevail throughout the jurisdiction."

M.E. Grand High Priest James W. Maynard, while announcing this happy state of things to the Thirty-

sixth Annual Convocation at Omaha, last December, did not take much credit to himself:

“Owing to the fact that my vocation requires all of my time, I have not been able to officially visit many of our Chapters.”

He was not in favor of increasing the number of Chapters:

“We are fortunate so far in having but two extinct Chapters in the State, both of them having existed in the same town, and my immediate predecessor is to be congratulated upon his good judgment in refusing dispensations which might have resulted in increasing the number of unfortunates. It is better to care for the ones we have, than to create Chapters whose future is in the least problematic.”

He apparently had the “Masonic Home” bee in his bonnet, for he asked if it was not time for the Grand Chapter to consider the question of doing something to assist the Grand Lodge in caring for the needy Masons of the State. He saw no good reason why the Grand Chapter could not contribute from \$500.00 to \$750.00 per annum for charity. The Grand Lodge at this time, he said, is not able to purchase and maintain a Masonic Home, but if the other Grand Bodies could purchase one, he believed the income from the Grand Lodge charity funds would maintain it.

The Committee on the subject of Masonic Charity reported that it had the matter under consideration, and recommended the adoption of the recommendation made by the Grand High Priest in his address.

Other matters before Grand Chapter were of local interest only. Past Grand High Priest Phelps is to the front as usual with a dainty Correspondence report. He opens with a statement of Nebraskan law governing the order of High Priesthood for the benefit of his Companions of the guild of which in this instance we are an uninterested outsider. Remarking on the optimistic tone in the addresses of Grand High Priests who exhaust the English language for beautiful phrases in which to emphasize the great prosperity of the country at large, he says under Arkansas:

“How glad we should all be if we really could believe all the hopeful declarations we hear. While reading the above annual address, to-day's paper came in, and glancing at the report of a meeting of ecclesiasties in Troy, N.Y., we find one predicting a crisis in financial affairs and asserting that any one who stood squarely on both feet might feel the rumbling of calamity. But another bishop replying, said he was not apprehensive of any financial calamity, declaring that the country was in the hands of a dozen capitalists who control the affairs, and as a matter of self-protection would prevent any calamity. There is protection for you, and, perhaps, for the dozen aforesaid.”

He has a brief review of Canada for 1902:

“R. E. Companion George J. Bennett presents another of his entertaining reports on correspondence, covering ninety-eight pages and reviewing the proceedings of forty-two Grand Chapters.”

“Nebraska is not numbered among the fortunate, at which we wonder, for our 1900 Proceedings had been out many months.”

Most assuredly it had not reached us in time, else we would not negligently pass Nebraska, the proceedings of which are always welcome. He thus criticizes Kentucky's action in assisting at a corner-stone laying:

“Is there any precedent for such work? We think not. It is the peculiar work of the Grand Master, sustained by practice from a time whence the memory of man runneth not to the contrary, but the High Priest's labors are within the sanctuary; at the altar. What a sacrilege, to parade before the public the vestments of a High Priest.”

George J. Spohn, Superior, Grand High Priest.

Francis E. White, Plattsmouth, Grand Secretary.

NEVADA

Chapters . . 7

Members . . 321

A neat little volume of one hundred pages not only narrates the doings of the Thirteenth Annual Convocation in Virginia City, on the 8th of June last, but includes excellent portraits of Grand High Priest Frank D. King and Grand Secretary Chauncey N. Noteware, as well as a breezy report on Correspondence, his first, from Companion E. D. Vanderlieth, who, from the hum-

ble office of Scribe of Lewis Chapter No. 1, has ventured into the arena with all the easy confidence of a belted knight of a hundred battles. His initial essay is a gem, and indicates an ambition that we trust will not stop at a seat at the round table or Master of the Third Veil.

Another portrait is that of Past Grand High Priest Albert Lackey, who died at Oakland, California, in August, 1902, and to whose virtues the Grand High Priest paid loving tribute.

Owing to "business and the scattered and distant locations of our Subordinate Chapters" the Grand High Priest was unable to visit any Chapter during the year.

He recommended the purchase of a distinctive apron and collar for the Grand High Priest to be worn when that officer is visiting constituent Chapters as "the High Priest is not looked upon with that respect and his office with that dignity it deserves unless he is so *regaled*."

Which probably accounts for the milk in the coconut. He also advocated the "blue label" legislation with the old familiar but unstable argument:

"As the law now stands it frequently occurs that Companions after receiving the Capitular degrees, dimit from the Lodge, which is the foundation of Masonry, leaving the burden of sustaining the earlier body upon those whose circumstances or inclinations do not warrant application to the Chapter."

He bore deserved testimony to the zeal and devotion of the Grand Secretary and urged that the latter's portrait be given to the capitular world that all might be familiar with the features of one "we often hear about but very seldom see."

The Grand Treasurer holds a balance of \$525 and in view of this wealth it was deemed unnecessary to levy an assessment for the coming year.

The recommendation of the Grand High Priest for a dependent membership law was thus disposed of by the Jurisprudence Committee:

“As the law now stands every Master Mason must be an active member of some Lodge and pay dues therein, or if dimitted, he must pay an amount equal to the dues charged by the Lodge under whose jurisdiction he resides, to that Lodge or the Grand Lodge, and if he fails to do so, at the expiration of six months he is self-suspended and a suspension by either the act of the member or by operation of law, the symbolic Lodge suspends the member from the right of visitation and membership in the Chapter.

“We therefore recommend that no amendment be made to said regulation.”

The following communication was read, and on motion the invitation was accepted with thanks:

Argenta Chapter, No. 7, Order Eastern Star.

Virginia City, Nevada, June 6, 1903.

Mr. C. N. Noteware, Grand Secretary Royal Arch Masons:

Dear Sir:—Argenta Chapter, No. 7, O. E. S., extends to the Royal Arch Masons, their wives and guests, a cordial invitation to attend an entertainment at Pythian Hall, Tuesday evening, at 8 o'clock. A banquet will be served at the Masonic Hall immediately after the entertainment.

Fraternally yours,

LAURA L. HARPER, *Secretary.*

An entertainment and banquet from the ladies, good! But why that chilly “Dear Sir” when it might as easily have had the addition “and Brother”? To say the least Laura was not wholly consistent when she subscribed herself “fraternally yours.” Nevertheless we are quite prepared to hear from Companion Vanderleith that a simple little omission like that was amply atoned for in the warmth of the dear sisters’ hospitality.

The world was sad—the garden was a wild;

And Man, the hermit, sighed—till Woman smiled.”

Joseph A. Miller, Austin, Grand High Priest.

Chauncey N. Noteware, Carson, Grand Secretary.

NEW BRUNSWICK

Chapter . . 9.

Members . . 473.

In the City of Saint John on the 27th August, 1902, the fifteenth annual Convocation was opened by Com-

panion Alexander Burchill, M. E. Grand High Priest. Canada's representative was not among those who answered at roll call.

Referring to the conclusion of peace in South Africa the Grand High Priest said:

"I cannot but believe that the principles of Masonry have exercised a most important, though unseen, influence on the settlement of the magnanimous terms which have been granted to the forces of our former enemies, the two late Boer republics. We know that the most prominent and able leaders on both sides in that fiercely contested struggle are distinguished members of the Craft, and their influence was undoubtedly exercised, and with effect, along the lines indicated by the tenets of our Ancient and Honorable Fraternity."

He made a number of visitations, and in reporting, said:

"Some of the Chapters in the remote parts of the Province appear to be suffering from want of supervision and instruction, which, if not afforded them, must ultimately lead to their extinction. I find the officers and members are not as well acquainted with the ritual work as is desirable. The Chapters are so isolated that it is difficult for the officers to obtain an opportunity to see the work done in other Chapters."

It would appear that the levity complained of so much by Capitular Craft rulers in United States jurisdictions is not a stranger to New Brunswick which adopted their ritual in some of the Chapters. There is no room for anything but strict decorum in the English ritual as worked in Canada:

"The working of the ritual of the first three degrees has attained such perfection that when a brother is about to receive the Chapter degrees he naturally concludes that, as they are called higher degrees, he is about to witness something vastly superior to what he has been accustomed in the preparatory degrees. But in the majority of instances, I fear, he is dissatisfied, not from any fault in the degrees themselves, but solely in the manner of conferring them; they fail to have the intended moral effect, and the candidate retires feeling disappointed."

E., Edwin G. Vroom addressed Grand Chapter later, and, referring to that part of the Grand High Priest's address which deals with the question of ritual, claimed that some Chapters had the Scotch work, some the Massa-

chusetts, and some the Canadian, and urged that the Ritual Committee prepare and promulgate a uniform ritual for this jurisdiction.

The Grand Secretary reported a net gain of ten. The Grand Treasurer presented Grand Chapter with a set of jewels, and Companion Everitt received the cordial thanks of Grand Chapter for his handsome gift.

In replying to the vote of thanks he remarked that the hearty manner in which his donation had been received was an indication that it had been appreciated, and increased the pleasure it was to him to make the gift.

Alexander Burchill, Fredericton, Grand High Priest.

William B. Wallace, K.C., St. John, Grand Secretary.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Chapters . . 25.

Members . . 3,772.

Last year it was recorded that the increase in membership was just nine. This year it is 94, which goes to show that the Granite State is keeping up with the procession.

There was a vacant chair at the Eighty-fourth Annual Convocation held in the City of Concord on May 19, 1903. Waldo Adolphus Russell, elected Grand King at the previous Convocation, had been summoned to higher honors in the January following.

“Right Excellent Companion Russell was a man of blameless life and amiable disposition, making friends with all who made his acquaintance, successful in his business; by his firm adherence to truth and integrity he won the confidence of all his associates.”

Companions at Raymond petitioned for a Chapter, but the Grand High Priest did not believe that Capitular interests would be served in that vicinity and declined.

He said that notwithstanding the general prosperity, the quality of the work was not up to the standard and urged the appointment of a Grand Lecturer.

The Grand Chapter as such accepted the cordial invitation of the Grand Lodge, and were present at the laying of the corner stone of the Masonic Home at Manchester on July 8, 1902. Was it not out of place there?

M. E. Companion Albert S. Wait, Past Grand High Priest, presented the correspondence report, which included Canada for 1903. The veteran Companion's friendly notice is highly appreciated.

"Companion Bennett's work is one of the most complete epitomizations of the doings and sayings of the Capitular Craft which the year has brought to our notice, and we have read it with more than the usual interest."

We might easily return the compliment for his watchful eye permits little to escape and he has invariably a word of good comment on a good subject. For instance the Indian Territory man having thrown up his hands in holy horror at the idea of a Chapter ruler being a voluntary non-affiliate with a Blue Lodge, he says, and we are thoroughly in accord:

"This implies that our Companion does not regard non-affiliation in a Blue Lodge as itself a disqualification for the office of High Priest, but only a disqualification in case the non-affiliation is voluntary. That is to say, he may be of such character and reputation as to be denied membership in any Lodge of Masons, his periodical rejection removes all disqualification for the highest office of the Chapter. If our Companion of Delaware, with others thinking as he does, would hold affiliation in the Blue Lodge an indispensable requisite to membership in the Chapter we would give them credit at least for logical consistency, though we would hesitate to agree as to the doctrine. We regard Lodge non-affiliation as no forsaking of the cause of, or any disloyalty to, Masonry. It is merely the foregoing of the rights of membership in a particular Lodge, and implies no disloyalty or any unfaithfulness to the Masonic fraternity."

His righteous repugnance to the "union label" in Masonry is further emphasized in remarks under Maryland:

"Companion Schultz holds steadily against the doctrine of dependent membership, several times alluding to the subject with expressions of decided disapproval. We have from the first been in full sympathy with his views, having failed thus far to see in the doctrine anything but confusion in its results among the fraternity."

He slipped once on the word "order" as applied to the Royal Arch, and Companion Hodson of Oregon promptly picked him up, saying: "Knights Templar may properly be termed an order, but Masonry is a fraternity."

"To this we fully agree, and wherever we have used the term as applied to the Lodge or Chapter, we assent to the correction. We some years ago discussed this topic with some of our brethren, insisting upon the same view as that of our Companion of Oregon. We have looked over our report to which his present review applies, with some care, and find to our surprise, and we confess somewhat to our chagrin, that we once in that report thus used the word. We find but one instance, but if there are more, we agree that they are not in the best taste, and should have been avoided. But applied to the conventions or Councils of High Priesthood, we have constantly used the term, supposing it to be fully authorized. It is applied to that branch of Masonry constantly, in the records of nearly if not quite all those assemblies, in Oregon not less than elsewhere. Does our Companion object to this use of the word? If so he must begin the reform in his own jurisdiction, where at present it is the well established term in use. We are of the impression that our Companion intends his stricture to apply only to the Lodge and Chapter, and perhaps to the Royal and Select degrees. If so we fully assent to his criticism."

John A. Lang, Franklin Falls. Grand High Priest.

Frank D. Woodbury, Concord, Grand Secretary.

NEW JERSEY

Chapters .. 38.

Members .. 4,005.

In the rooms of Three-Times-Three Chapter, No. 5, Trenton, May 13, 1903, the Forty-seventh Annual Convocation was opened.

Three draped chairs placed in front of the East of the Grand Chapter bore the names of departed Past Grand High Priests Edwards, Githens, Simpson.

Companions Rollin M. Morgan, Grand High Priest; George E. W. Stivers, Past Grand High Priest; J. Harris Balston, Past Grand High Priest; Henry D. Hamilton, Grand King, and other officers of the Grand

Chapter of New York were received with all the honors due to such distinguished visitors.

Grand High Priest Nelson Y. Dungan remarked, in opening:

“The year that has passed has been one of unusual business prosperity, which is undoubtedly one reason for the very large increase in our membership; but a still stronger reason is the increased interest in the rendition of the beautiful degree work of our ritual.”

Of the honored dead, the lamented Grand Secretary George B. Edwards, was best known to the Capitular Craft generally.

“During his service as a member of the Grand Chapter, he held positions on the most important committees, having been chairman of the Committee on Constitutions, Appeals and Grievances, Finance, Foreign Correspondence and Doings of the Grand Chapter Officers. At the Annual Convocation, 1900, a silver loving-cup was presented to Companion Edwards as a testimony of the love and esteem with which he was regarded by the members of this Grand Chapter, and he directed that after his death that cup should be returned to the Grand Chapter. This was done, and its possession will be a constant reminder of services performed and duties well done by Companion Edwards in behalf of this Grand Chapter.”

“For over half a century our departed Companion, George B. Edwards, led a life full of earnestness, full of intensity of thought, full of action for the welfare and uplifting of his fellow-men. It was an illustration of the sublime ethics of Freemasonry. Not only in the Lodge room, not only in the Chapter, not only in the Commandery, not only in the Consistory, but in his daily work he carried it out. In social life he carried it out. In his business life it was as the garment of righteousness, clothing his personality and making him to be revered, to be admired, to be loved.”

“The ethics of our Institution was the governing motive of his entire life. He loved Masonry, not because of its esoteric character; not because of its magnificent ritual; not because of the associations it brought with it; but he loved Masonry, as I and many that are now listening to me can testify, truthfully; he loved it because of its grand foundation.”

The Grand High Priest decided against applicants who had lost an arm for the very good reason that “it would seem to be absolutely impossible for persons so afflicted to qualify as Royal Arch Masons.”

He recommended the adoption of a General Regulation requiring all Mark Master Masons to select a Mark and record the same in the Lodge-book of Marks prior to exaltation to the Royal Arch degree.

The Jurisprudence Committee however sat down heavily on the G. H. P.'s proposal and would have none of it.

The unusual increase in petitions for the Capitular degrees has resulted in a corresponding increase in the number of waivers of jurisdiction. In one case the applicant, said to be a resident of New Jersey, received the degrees in a New York Chapter without seeking the waiver, and there is trouble looming up for him, as he gave as his address Park Place, New York City.

After the death of the Grand Secretary the Grand High Priest deemed it important that the Grand Chapter books and effects in his possession should be taken in charge immediately, and among the assets he discovered about three tons of books, the reports of other Grand Chapters.

"Unless it be the purpose of this Grand Chapter to establish a library where these books can be available for reference, it seems to me the best place for them would be in a regular Masonic Library; for they are certainly of no use to anyone stowed away in a garret, as they have been for years."

It was decided to donate the books to the Library Committee of the M. W. Grand Lodge of F. & A. M., State of New Jersey, if they can in their custody be easily accessible to the members of Grand Chapter.

At the request of the Grand High Priest, M. E. Companion I. Layton Register, read a paper on the early history of Royal Arch Masonry in New Jersey, which very interesting document was ordered to be printed in the proceedings.

The following resolution was approved by the Committee on Constitutions and adopted:

"That the Chapters under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter are hereby expressly forbidden the introduction within the tyled walls of their Chapters of any spirituous liquors, wine or beer, under any pretense whatever."

There should be no necessity for such regulations within the Masonic circle.

Companion Charles Belcher, Chairman of the Correspondence Committee, was elected Grand Secretary. The distinction did not impair his report, which exhibited his usual painstaking care. Canada for 1903 passed under review.

In view of the resolution quoted previously his remarks to Companion Shaver, of Kansas, who said that the serving of beer at banquets under the auspices of the Chapter was "in direct violation of the principles of our Order," is worth quoting:

"This again opens the question, Who is to decide that it is a violation? All jurisdictions are not willing to accept the Kansas 'dictum' on the subject."

But as New Jersey's regulation provides against the introduction of beer *within the tyled walls*, with which we agree, it is clear that Companion Belcher has been left an open hand still.

He is one of a swelling minority who see but little sense or utility in the compulsory selection of the Mark prior to exaltation, and who sees for the practice, as objected to, an early and unlamented demise.

"We fail to see any possible good resulting from such legislation, accruing either to the Chapter (Grand or Subordinate) or to the individual making such selection. Out of the thousands who choose Marks, how many carry them? How many have occasion to put them to practical use, or, having the opportunity, would care to do so? The fable assists materially in rounding out the degree, but beyond that it amounts to naught, and should have no bearing upon exaltation."

With us it is purely optional. At one time when the Companions were permitted to select coats of arms, crests and all sorts of impossible and mythical things, the selection of a Mark was quite popular and the engraver became opulent, but when the design was, by regulation, confined "to lines or combination of lines in the form of squares, angles, triangles or any other form in which straight lines can be combined" the eag-

erness for the distinction visibly waned, until now the selecting of a Mark is the exception.

“Who builds a church to God, and not to Fame,
Will never mark the marble with his Name.”

Joseph Mason, Paterson, Grand High Priest.

Charles Belcher, Newark, Grand Secretary.

NEW MEXICO

Chapters .. 10.

Members .. 501.

The Fifth Annual was held at Santa Fe on the 22nd October, 1902, the ten Chapters being represented.

“This Grand Chapter reports with pride a healthy growth in membership, and the general prosperity of subordinate chapters. There have been no new chapters formed during this fiscal year, and the financial condition of both Grand and Subordinate Chapters is of the best.”

Grand High Priest Chamberlain having noticed that there had been no official visits of the Grand Lecturer or Grand High Priest to the subordinate Chapters since the organization of the Grand Chapter, recommended that sufficient funds be set aside to pay the expense of one official visit of the Grand Lecturer to each subordinate Chapter during each year, believing that this would prove an incentive to better work.

The Grand Treasurer reported having \$905 available funds and \$107.73 to the credit of the Charity Fund.

Companion W. H. Seamon, Chairman of the Foreign Correspondence Committee, submitted a brief report, in which he stated that recognition had been general from sister Grand Chapters.

“Where comment is made we are criticized for permitting any of our subordinates for charging a less fee for the degrees than required by the laws of the jurisdiction. I am satisfied, however, that if any of the criticizing jurisdictions had before them a case similar to the one before us, when we gave the permission, they would have done precisely as we did. None criticize the right

of this Grand Chapter to make such laws for itself as the interests entrusted to it demand."

"The cost of printing these reports is considerable, and as we are yet young, I believe that it is best for us to husband our receipts until we have a good sized charity fund to provide against the day when there may be a need for it."

The Committee on the Grand High Priest's address considered the recommendation re the Grand Lecturer, and sensibly put the case this way:

"The jurisdiction is small, and we feel that those who receive the honors of election can best show their appreciation of them by making some attempt to get in touch with the companions of the jurisdiction. They should take advantage of their opportunities to be useful to the craft. We recognize the distances to be traversed and the expense incident thereto, and recommend that the Grand H. P., Deputy, King and Scribe divide the jurisdiction and visit each of the Chapters in the vicinity of their homes during the year and make some effort to infuse unusual interest in the meetings of the Chapters."

One hundred dollars was voted as a honorarium for the Grand Secretary.

C. G. Duncan, Sicorro, Grand High Priest.

Alpheus A. Keene, Albuquerque, Grand Secretary.

NEW YORK

Chapters .. 194.

Members .. 24,915.

Grand Chapter again convened in the State capital, and after the opening ceremonies on February 3rd, Grand High Priest Alfred A. Guthrie delivered an address of welcome to the representatives of other Grand Chapters present, to which he of North Dakota responded in eloquent terms.

The Committee appointed to procure jewels for the Grand Officers to replace those procured in 1871 and in use since, reported. The outfit cost \$1,134, and having been on view during the reading of the report, were distributed to the officers. It was resolved:

“That the official jewels hitherto, and for the past thirty-one years, worn by the officers of this Grand Chapter, be placed in the custody of the Committee of Antiquities of the Grand Lodge of this State, for preservation.”

The Grand High Priest paid deserved tributes to the illustrious dead. Past Grand High Priest James D. Pollard, Grand Chaplain James Byron Murray, and the veteran Correspondent, George J. Gardner.

“In his character as Grand Chaplain, James Byron Murray was best known to his companions. The addresses which he delivered before the Grand Chapter, annually, in that capacity, scholarly, eloquent and instructive productions, were a valuable contribution to Masonic literature.”

“On the death of M. E. Darius A. Ogden, May 4, 1899, Companion Gardner was made Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence. On February 5, 1890, he was again appointed Chairman, and held that position continuously until his death. His work in that capacity has been highly commended by the Royal Craft of almost every jurisdiction throughout the world.”

Of Companion Pollard the Grand High Priest said:

“I cannot attempt a eulogy of a life so noble, a character so upright, a disposition so gentle. That sad duty must be performed by one from among those still left to us of his associates during the thirty-six years of his active membership in this body. His life and character are a precious heritage, and will serve as example and guide to us and our successors for many years to come.”

Two new Chapters were instituted and one consolidated. In the latter case:

“The ceremonies were public and in the Saranac Lake Opera House. Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, about five hundred citizens of Saranac Lake and vicinity were interested witnesses of the ceremony.”

The Grand Secretary reported that despite the fact that the Chapters exalting 35 or more, twelve in number, exalted twenty-nine per cent. of the entire number of exaltations, and that no work was done by nine of the Chapters, the fact remains that the Chapters generally throughout the jurisdiction have greatly prospered during the past year. One especially gratifying feature, being the lessening number of suspensions for the non-payment of dues.

The Fraternal Union of Anointed High Priests of the State of New York, extended an invitation to the Grand Chapter, to attend a reception under the auspices of the Union, in the Masonic Temple, immediately after the closing of the Grand Council of Anointed High Priests, and, on motion, the same was accepted.

The Grand High Priest stated that Bishop Potter would arrive in Albany at eleven o'clock, next morning, whereupon, on motion, it was resolved "That Bishop Potter be invited to address the Grand Chapter to-morrow morning at half-past eleven."

And promptly on time the Right Reverend Henry Codman Potter, Bishop of New York, a companion of the membership of Jerusalem Chapter, No. 8, of New York City, was admitted, welcomed by the Grand High Priest, received in form, and introduced to the Companions, whom he addressed, in a brief but eloquent discourse.

"I do not forget, Most Excellent, that in Masonry, as in other ancient traditions, history sometimes melts away into primitive myths upon whose literal substance no one of us may rashly pronounce. But the very ancient origin of Masonry, no one of us, I think, may doubt; and if we may not, then, straightway we are confronted with one of the most impressive facts in human history,—the fact, I mean, that even before its Divine Incarnation entered the world, there was an Order of men that stood for the pre-eminent and pre-eminently precious fact of the Brotherhood of Man!

"Now, then, Most Excellent and Companions, I affirm that there is nothing in all the world to-day that is so impressive and so universal an affirmation of that truth as Masonry. Do you say that the Religion in which most of us here have been nurtured, everywhere that it has gone, has everywhere affirmed it? God forbid that I should forget that glorious fact! But it does not take a very long voyage to outrun the confines of the Christian religion; and when you have,—in Japan or China or India, or wherever you go,—have you outrun Masonry? Nay, wherever, as in any Mohammedan country, there is a monotheistic religion,—a religion that believes in the one Supreme Jehovah,—there you find the Masonic Order, and there you may recognize its beneficent influence!

" 'Well, what has all this to do,' some one may ask, 'with this assemblage, and with these ceremonies?' Just this, that we who are Masons, and proud to be Masons, may never forget that we

are also citizens—and citizens of no mean Republic! Content for a century or more to build herself up from within, she is now reaching out to touch that great East from which, after all, when Solomon reared the Temple, her greatest ideas came. And of these greatest ideas, the greatest of all was that by which she binds men together, of whatever family or country, or color, in the world-wide fellowship of the Masonic Lodge!

“Believe me, Men and Brethren, with a great stewardship come great responsibilities! May we recognize the unique character, and the sublime powers of our trust; and may we use it, here and everywhere, in the upbuilding of a great people, and in the enthronement, high over all our national or personal endeavors, of the two supreme principles of Masonry,—faith in the Eternal Fatherhood of God, and in the Eternal Brotherhood of Man!”

Later the following, among other recommendations of the Finance Committee, was approved:

“That the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars, in addition to his per diem and mileage, be placed in the hands of Comp. Henry C. Potter, for use at his discretion.”

There are jurisdictions where a two-page address at that figure would be considered high, but then a bishop is an exalted dignitary of the church.

“ ‘Tis from high Life high Characters are drawn;
A Saint in Crape is twice a Saint in Lawn.”

Companion Marion I. Greenwood accepted the correspondence mantle doffed by the departed G. J. Gardner, and at the outset imagined he had “bitten off more than he could chew.”

“One who has never had the experience cannot begin to appreciate the feeling that came to me when, immediately after my appointment to this place, the Grand Secretary piled upon my desk the accumulated reports of Grand Chapters received up to that time, being those of thirty-seven Bodies, with 6,500 pages of solid printed matter, and then said to me: ‘This is just for a starter; look these over, and when you have taken out from them all that is of interest, I will have some more for you.’ I was almost paralyzed, and have hardly recovered my breath even yet.”

But he got through the formidable task nobly, and presented a report that demonstrates the wisdom of his Companions. He had a faithful review of Canada for 1902 with quotations from the Grand Z’s address.

Rollin M. Morgan, New York, Grand High Priest.
 Christopher G. Fox, Buffalo, Grand Secretary.

NORTH CAROLINA

Chapters . . 21.

Members . . 978.

"It is fitting and proper that we should meet in this Historic old City by the Sea at this, the Fifty-fifth Convocation of our Grand Chapter. It was here in Wilmington that our ancient brethren assembled in the early days of the Eighteenth Century and formed the first Blue Lodge of Masons, which was chartered and organized in the Province of North Carolina. To you belongs the proud distinction of having formed the first Chapter in North Carolina. You have furnished to Masonry some of the brightest lights in the firmament of her glory."

These were Grand High Priest John C. Drewy's words, but he did not speak them himself to the Companions at Wilmington on the occasion of the Fifty-fifth Annual Convocation, June 16, 1903. His wife lay critically ill and he was forced to leave the address in the hands of his deputy, who read it to the Companions.

By a resolution, passed at last Annual Convocation, the Grand Council was directed to select from the children at the Oxford Orphan Asylum, a boy or a girl who should be the child of a Mason, and adopt him or her as the ward of the Grand Chapter. This child was to be educated by the Grand Chapter, at a cost not exceeding \$100.00 per annum. The amount advanced by the Grand Chapter to be in the nature of a loan.

"In compliance with this resolution, and after consultation with Colonel W. J. Hicks, Superintendent of the Oxford Orphan Asylum, we selected Eston Renno, of Haywood County, the son of G. L. Renno, who was a member of Pigeon River Lodge, No. 386."

The lad, who has lost a leg, is sixteen years old.

He granted a dispensation for a new Chapter at Southern Pines. The report of the Grand Secretary last year showed a net gain of 56 members over the previous year, and a total membership of 853. His report this year shows a total membership of 978, or a net gain of 125.

Greetings having been sent to the Knights of Pythias then meeting in Wilmington, the following resolution, adopted by that body, was received:

“Be it resolved by the Grand Lodge, Knights of Pythias of the Domain of North Carolina, in convention now assembled, That we desire to express our deep appreciation of the fraternal courtesy conveyed in the message just received from the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons. We sincerely reciprocate their good wishes and kind words, and bid them God-speed in the splendid works characteristic of their ancient and noble fraternity.”

The incident is referred to because of its rarity. It is questionable whether the dignity of Masonry was conserved by the action, well meant as it undoubtedly was. It would keep the Ancient Craft busy if modern beneficiary organizations are to be similarly recognized.

A Companion present, on behalf of Companion Wm. H. Andrews, of Phoenix Chapter No. 2, of New York, presented two photographs of historical interest.

One is a picture of the Masonic apron of Levi Andrews, Jr., who was a member of St. John's Lodge at New Bern, N.C., which apron is embellished with various emblems of the Master Mason's Degree, and on the flap is a Chapter mark.

The other photograph is of a Masonic diploma issued by St. John's Lodge No. 2, New Bern, N.C., stating that Brother Levi Andrews, Jr., had been admitted to the Fifth Degree of Masonry, Mark and Past Master, and is dated February 12th, 1793.

Reproductions of the interesting photographs appear in the printed Proceedings. The relics are now in the Museum of Masonic Antiquities in New York City.

The incident led to a resolution being adopted later to the effect that a Committee of three be appointed by the Grand High Priest, to collect data and relics of Capitular Masonry in the State of North Carolina, the same to be deposited with the Grand Secretary in order that a history of the same may be compiled for the benefit of the Grand Chapter and the Companions generally throughout its jurisdiction.

The Wilmington Entertainment Committee extended a cordial invitation to the members of the Grand Chapter, the Grand Council and the Grand Commandery to join the Masonic fraternity of the city in a trip down the Cape Fear River on the steamer Wilmington, and a trolley ride to Wrightsville Beach. Both invitations were accepted with thanks.

Companion James Southgate contributed his twentieth report on Correspondence, in which Canada for 1902 receives fraternal notice.

Under England he notices that a charter was granted a Chapter which was to meet at the Trocadero Restaurant, Piccadilly Circus, London, and adds:

“We would call that an unsavory neighborhood for inculcating temperance and morality, and hope this Chapter will do missionary work in this locality and improve the environments.”

If Companion Southgate could only realize the many similar “unsavory neighborhoods” in London alone where Masons meet for social and moral intercourse and incidentally to practice the greatest of works. Charity, his good soul would be harrowed.

“Whoe’er has travelled life’s dull round,
Where’er his stages may have been,
May sigh to think he still has found
The warmest welcome at an inn.”

Henry C. Smallbones, Wilmington. Grand High Priest.

Jas. C. Munds, Wilmington, Grand Secretary.

NORTH DAKOTA

Chapters .. 15

Members .. 1,239

The record for the year was exceptionally good, though the report of the proceedings of the Fourteenth Annual is embraced in a very small compass.

George H. Keyes, M. E. Grand High Priest, welcomed the Companions in Fargo’s Masonic Temple, on the 12th June, 1903. He represents Canada in North Da-

kota, and Canada congratulates him upon his preferment and his good inclination to the Royal Craft.

His official acts were few, comprising the issue of a few dispensations, the constituting of one Chapter, and the instituting of another.

Grand Secretary Thompson reported favorably and happily:

“It should be gratifying to this Grand Chapter to note the steady progress in our numbers, and the healthy and peaceful tone which pervades our Grand Jurisdiction. We meet year after year with new faces among us, but old, familiar ones are always here; and we note each year a little whitening of the hair, an added line upon the face, still we find the heart ever fresh and genial, and see a new stone added to the arch that is building overhead. We forget the shadows as we look up and see the light that falls upon the ‘Holy Royal Arch.’”

There were no grievances, no decisions, nothing but white-winged peace everywhere.

R. E. Comp. Frank J. Thompson surprised the Grand High Priest, as well as the retiring Grand High Priest and the Companions present, in the presentation of a Past Grand High Priest's jewel to M. E. Comp. George H. Keyes. “M. E. Comp. John Holmes, the Grand High Priest, was too surprised to give utterance to his astonishment, and M. E. Comp. Keyes, after the jewel was pinned upon his breast, gathered his equanimity and heartily thanked the Companions for so beautiful a remembrance.”

They do surprising things in North Dakota accosionally, but it is suprising that the Oriental twinklers were not on hand with a surprise for Grand Secretary Thompson. It goes without saying that he must have been surprised at the omission.

“The softer charm that in her manner lies
Is framed to captivate, yet not surprise.”

John Holmes, Valley City, Grand High Priest.

Frank J. Thompson, Fargo, Grand Secretary.

NOVA SCOTIA

Chapters .. 14

Members .. 744

Thirty-three Annual Convocations have been held by this daughter of Canada, and the printed record of the last held at Truro, on the 10th June, 1902, indicates stability and progress.

Companion J. M. Owen, the M. E. Grand High Priest, was unable to be present, and in consequence the duty of presiding devolved upon Comp. H. W. Yuill, Grand King, who opened the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Nova Scotia in due form at 10 o'clock a.m.

There was a goodly representation of the Chapters present, and the attendance otherwise was most gratifying.

The address of the absent Grand High Priest was read by his *locum tenens*. It contained little to interest any but those of his jurisdiction. He paid a touching tribute to those Canadians who fought and fell in distant South Africa.

Dispensation for a new Chapter at Glace Bay was issued.

Interesting reports from the Grand Officers appointed to visit the Chapters were presented.

The Grand Secretary reported a net increase of forty-four for the year. He draws attention to a fact as patent elsewhere as in his own jurisdiction:

“Several Chapters have an idea that their returns are not due until the Annual Meeting. This wrong impression is the occasion of much delay and consequent inconvenience to the Grand Officers and Committees, and the cause of very imperfect reports being presented. It is surprising that some of the best Secretaries (in other respects) are the last to send in their returns.”

“I am pleased to report that just before leaving for Truro I received from R. E. Comp. Geo. J. Bennett, Grand Scribe E. Grand Chapter of Canada, a duplicate of the original Charter of Hiram Chapter, No. 3.”

It was decided that the per capita tax for 1902-03 be fifty cents.

The Correspondence report was divided among the members of the Committee, Canada falling to "S. J. W." The whole makes a concise and comprehensive review of the sister jurisdictions.

James Dempster, Halifax, Grand High Priest.

D. H. Campbell, Halifax, Grand Secretary.

PENNSYLVANIA

Chapters .. 124

Members .. 20,141

Some routine business and the working of the Mark Master Degree were the features of the March quarterly.

In June, M. E. Companion Isaac F. Stidham, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Connecticut, was pleased to visit the Grand Chapter, and was received with the customary honors.

The M. E. Grand High Priest announced the death of Grand Chaplain Companion Rev. Henry S. Getz, which announcement elicited tributes of sorrow and respect from Grand Chaplain Companion Rev. Thompson P. Ege and others.

The Grand Secretary reported in September that the previous year showed a net gain of 880. The R. A. Degree was exemplified, and "Grand Chapter was closed in peace at nine o'clock and twenty-five minutes, p.m."

At the December quarterly the Jurisprudence Committee congratulated Grand Chapter "upon the peace and harmony existing therein. We have not been called upon to hold a meeting." Obituary addresses were delivered and officers elected. On the 27th December, 1902, the "Annual Grand" was held in Philadelphia's handsome Masonic Temple, a picture of which is given with the printed Proceedings.

New Jersey's Grand High Priest and others were welcomed as visitors.

The Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Companion Edward B. Spencer, then presented his report:

“The healthy growth of many years has caused this body to assume the fairest proportions and the most enduring vitality. It retains all the freshness of youth and all the vigor of mature age. The past year presents no exception to the honorable career which has always distinguished it.”

“The year has, in the way of accessions, been the most prosperous in the history of the Grand Chapter. Our financial affairs never were in a more satisfactory condition. Besides possessing an invested fund of twenty-two thousand dollars, we have without difficulty met all our obligations, have contributed one thousand dollars to that very laudable charity, the Masonic Home, and have a very respectable balance in the treasury.”

He decided *inter alia* that the use of monitors, printed or written rituals in conferring the degrees is unlawful. Also that a summons issued to the members of a Chapter must be signed by the High Priest and Secretary, and have the seal of the Chapter attached.

His successor, M. E. Companion Henry Oscar Kline, in his inaugural put the time-honored poser to the Companions:

“Among the ancient charges assented by the High Priest previous to his installation is that you will not exalt any one to this degree . . . who has not made considerable proficiency in the preceding degrees.

“Our Constitution is silent upon this question, but just how any High Priest can possibly be satisfied with the proficiency of a Brother Most Excellent Master in that and the Mark Degrees before conferring the Royal Arch upon him, when all are conferred at the same meeting of the Chapter, presents a question for which it is difficult to find a satisfactory answer.”

To five distinguished and erudite Companions was entrusted the compilation of the report on Correspondence. Past Grand High Priest Jacobs had Canada included in his portion.

We had commented on the apparent “anomaly” of styling the Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer and others “Most Excellent,” “a title which we have ever been taught should of right belong to but one, viz., the chief

ruler, and, by courtesy only, to those who preceded him in that office."

This appears to have given Companion Jacobs much concern and anxiety, and in defence of the situation he went to much trouble and research. For this we express regret, because our real meaning was obscured in the combination, "Most Excellent," when it should have been written "Most" only. Companion Jacobs says:

"This, of course, means that the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania is peculiar in ascribing the title 'M.E.' to anyone but the Grand High Priest or a Past Grand High Priest. We fear this paragraph was the work of 'The Printer's Devil' and escaped the correcting pencil of Companion Bennett when he read the proof; for he is ordinarily far too painstaking and accurate a Masonic writer to fall into such an error. When he speaks of the Pennsylvania practice as 'anomalous,' he doubtless means that it is a departure from a settled rule, established by universal,—and in our opinion it should be added, ancient,—usage. But he is treading on very dangerous ground in assuming that there is any law governing official titles in Capitular Masonry, except such law as each Grand Chapter establishes for itself,—as a very slight examination of the proceedings of Grand Chapters will show; and he is in still greater danger if he assumes that the present prevailing practice among American Grand Chapters of styling the Grand High Priest 'M.E.' and all the other elective officers 'R.E.' is either ancient or universal. Starting with the knowledge that the Pennsylvania practice, said by our Companion to be anomalous, has obtained in our Grand Chapter for at least a century, we were led to examine into the practice elsewhere, and particularly in the older American jurisdictions. We regret that only broken sets of Proceedings were available for this purpose, but with the assistance of a Companion who is an accomplished Masonic student, enough has been gathered to refute Companion Bennett's charge of 'anomaly' against Pennsylvania. We give some of the results, confining ourselves to the elective officers, including the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary."

And thereupon he industriously delves into the ancient histories of Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, Delaware, Ohio and even travels across the Atlantic in a laudable effort to establish precedent for Pennsylvania's course.

Now, although Companion Jacobs implies it, we never assumed that there was a law governing titles in Capitular Masonry, but we admit the soft impeachment that in respect of titles Pennsylvania was regarded as peculiar

and therefore a law unto itself. It cannot be called to mind that any other jurisdiction applies the title "Most" to any officer but him who sits, or has sat, in the ruler's chair, and we humbly beg to suggest that even to the past ruler, whether Excellent or Worshipful, the application of the prefix "Most" is an incongruity.

The significance of the word "Most" should not be lost sight of in its titular application. It is a superlative, and the assumption of it by those who having held the highest position give way to another to whom they own allegiance, is, to say the least, inconsistent. There can be only one "Most," and in applying it as a title for those who have passed the Grand East it is simply sacrificing consistency at the expense of courtesy. To confer it on those who have never reached the greatest or highest position is to trail the word and its import in the mire of absurdity. Maine may have committed the error in 1821, and other jurisdictions at earlier or later periods, but such examples, even though termed "ancient usage," cannot right a palpable wrong.

But even if Companion Jacobs is unable to swim, he is not afraid of venturing into deep water:

"But Companion Bennett has been taught that the title 'Most Excellent' 'should of right belong to but one, viz., the chief ruler.' What is the ground of this right? Ancient, established, uniform usage? Hardly, in the face of even the meagre data that we have been able to furnish. Pre-eminence? But the High Priest of a subordinate Chapter is 'M. E.,'—although not in all jurisdictions, under the new dispensation,—and why should not all the elective officers of a Grand Chapter be as eminently distinguished?

"We turn to the list of the officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada, and find them bearing four different labels, viz., 'M.E.,' 'R.E.,' 'V.E.' and 'E.' 'M.E.' and 'E.' are old. 'R.E.' is well known and has recently come much into vogue among American Grand Chapters. But whence 'V.E.'? Is it not just a little bit 'anomalous'? And is not Canada a 'law unto itself' in this and, perhaps, some other matters?"

How much of the "you're another" phase of argument there is in the above! If the High Priest of a subordinate Chapter is "M. E." then the Master of the subordinate Lodge should be "M. W.," but he isn't

The sublime fitness of things is not observable in this phase of the discussion at all.

It was in a Masonic journal some years ago that we saw the titles in Masonry referred to as being similar to those of the church. The archbishop being at the head of the diocese, is styled "Most Reverend;" the elected bishops are "Right Reverend," the appointed deans the "Very Reverend," and the clergy generally "Reverend." Thus, as with us, in Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter, the Grand East is "Most," the elected officers are "Right," and the appointed "Very." Hence, "V. E." and nothing anomalous about it, either.

And although the title does not obtain in our subordinate Chapters, as it does in some of the jurisdictions of the United States, it must be admitted that there is a modicum of justification for the word "Most." Among all the Excellents in his Chapter the High Priest, by reason of his superior position, is the Most Excellent. To claim that inferior elective officers in Grand Chapters are, because of that, equally entitled to the prefix, is to claim something wholly unreasonable. Mackey, an eminent United States authority and one whom even Companion Jacobs will be disposed to admit, defines the title of elected officers thus:

"RIGHT EXCELLENT—The epithet prefixed to the title of all superior officers of a Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons *below* the dignity of a Grand High Priest."

The liberal sentiments of Companion Stockton Bates on the liquor question aroused the wrath of the man from Kentucky, who said: "We do not believe that association with a body of Masons is a good place for men who stand behind a bar and deal out death and damnation to his fellow-man, but especially his brother Mason." Kentucky enjoys a reputation for a variety of brands which might justify the sweeping description of them, but Companion Bates temperately replies:

"We personally have no use for the 'death and damnation' business. Drinking to excess is a bad business in any one. But we do know 'good men and true' who are dealing in liquors; men who are honorable, temperate, God-fearing, honest, generous men, just in their dealings, worthy and well qualified. Use and not

abuse will keep all men temperate. All things are good, but all are not expedient. All should avoid everything that is evil, use everything in moderation that may be found to tend toward the creation of the true man, "*mens sana in corpore sano.*"

Henry Oscar Kline, Pittsburg, Grand High Priest.

Charles Carey, Philadelphia, Grand Secretary.

QUEBEC

Chapters .. 11

Members .. 745

A new Chapter added and a net increase in membership of 101 emphasized the progress made by our sister jurisdiction to the east of us in 1902, and, all things considered, the showing was most gratifying. M. E. Companion Geo. O. Stanton, Grand Z., presided over the Twenty-sixth Annual Convocation, which on 24th March, 1903, was opened in the Masonic Hall of the Ancient Capital:

"We meet upon the great red rock of our Canadian Gibraltar, where Masonry was first introduced into Canada, and where the most refined civilization of the Old World first touched the barbaric wildness of the New. Imagination could hardly have devised a nobler portal to our fair Dominion—a spot where the largest share of the picturesque and romantic element is gathered round the outlines of a grand though rugged nature.

"I am reminded by the date upon the chair which I now occupy that the Brethren and Companions who have welcomed us to Quebec, and those who have preceded them, have been in possession, for nearly a century, of a collection of very precious relics of Royal and Select Masters of the Craft, whose services to Freemasonry are the common heritage of us all. The principal chairs in the east, west and south of this hall were the gift, in 1806, of H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex, Grand Master of the Moderns, who, with his royal brother, the Duke of Kent, was instrumental, in 1813, in the formation of the United Grand Lodge of England.

"For nearly half a century, however, before the presentation of these relics, other chairs had been 'passed' by the searchers after further light in Masonry, on their journey towards the Holy Royal Arch of Jerusalem.

"There has been claimed for the degrees of Capitular Masonry in Quebec a history which runs back close upon a century and a half. The Royal Arch degree was doubtless conferred in

this city within a quarter of a century of its introduction in York and in London."

The new Chapter for which he issued a dispensation is located in Cookshire, Compton County, and started its career under most favorable auspices.

He recommended that the Eastern Townships district be divided, as the territory is too large for proper supervision, and the addition of a Grand Lecturer to the roll of officers.

Reports from the several districts were exhaustive and interesting, and those of the Grand Scribe E. and Grand Treasurer indicated a condition of healthy progress.

The recommendation of the Grand Z. with reference to a Grand Lecturer was approved, and it was further decided:

"That the M.E. the G.Z. be empowered to appoint a skilful Companion to impart instruction to such Subordinate Chapters as make application for the same, and as occasion may arise. The travelling expenses incurred by the Companion who may be so appointed to be defrayed by Grand Chapter."

The Committee on Report of Grand Scribe E. congratulated Grand Chapter on having an efficient and painstaking officer and later on a more substantial recognition of that faithful Companion's devotion was unanimously agreed to.

New collars and jewels at a cost of \$125 were procured for the Grand Officers. The following was submitted as an addition to the Constitution, and stands as a notice of motion:

"That a Companion who has been a member of a subordinate Chapter under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter for a term of 20 years may become a life member with full privileges on the payment of \$5.00, said amount to be paid this Grand Chapter by the subordinate Chapter of which the Companion may be a member at the time of application for life membership."

Eighty pages comprise M. E. Companion Chambers' review of the Grand Chapters. It is, as always, enjoyable reading. The intemperate temperance which finds

vent in legislating against all and sundry who directly or indirectly are connected with the liquor trade, elicits the following, under Alabama:

“In Quebec we trust our Lodges and Chapters to select their own material, without presuming to add anything of our own to the qualifications provided by the Ancient Charges and Regulations of the Order. So far as we can ascertain, no further prohibitions are necessary. Not that we dare assert that no unworthy material finds its way into our Lodges and Chapters, for unfortunately the contrary is sometimes the case. But we know very many hotel men who would have made much better Masons than some of those psalm-singing hypocrites who have the poison of adders under their lips, yet seem to believe that it is easier to pass through the eye of a needle than for a saloon-keeper to enter into the Kingdom of Heaven.”

Three of his pages he gives to Canada for 1903, quoting in full the report the Committee on the restoration of the M. E. M. Degree.

J. Bruce Payne, Granby, Grand Z.

Will H. Whyte, Montreal, Grand Scribe E.

RHODE ISLAND

Chapters . . 10

Members . . 2,915

The One Hundred and Fifth Annual Convocation was held in Freemasons' Hall, Providence, Tuesday, March 10, 1903.

Grand High Priest Nye stated that the year had been a very prosperous one for all of the Chapters. Harmony and good feeling prevailed, and the prospect for next year bids fair to exceed this.

He was a frequent visitor, and reported well of the Chapters. He furnished a brief statement of his official acts, and remarked in closing:

“In these times of great prosperity, by the numerous accessions of men of every opinion, let us be very careful that we do not become tinctured with the impression that a Masonic body is democratic.

“Masonry and democracy are two widely differing institu-

tions. Masonry cannot be democratic, for he who presides over a Masonic body has absolute authority, and his will is law final."

The perpetual jurisdiction monstrosity came to the front under the following circumstances. A letter to the Grand High Priest from the Secretary of the Chapter at Woonsocket, R.I., stated that a brother who had resided there for ten years had made application for the Chapter degrees. Previous to coming there he had made application to a Chapter in New Haven, Conn., and he had asked relinquishment of jurisdiction over him, which was refused. He again petitioned the Rhode Island Chapter, and the Secretary asked advice. The Grand High Priest having sized up the situation, considered the Chapter was in order in receiving the petition. The Committee on the Address thought otherwise:

"In the matter of his decision regarding the reception of the petition by Union Chapter, No. 5, Woonsocket, of a brother over whom the Grand Chapter of Connecticut claims perpetual jurisdiction under their regulations, we feel compelled to recommend that this Grand Chapter do not approve his decision.

"Without passing judgment upon the advisability of the matter of perpetual jurisdiction as claimed by our sister Grand Chapter, we do feel that their position should be respected, as we should like ours respected under similar circumstances."

That zealous Companion of the Royal Arch, Rev. H. W. Rugg, is again the reviewer. He invariably gives his readers something to ponder and dwell upon, and the thoughtful perusal of which must, and doubtless does, prove of lasting benefit. In justification of the Correspondence report, for instance, he has this to say:

" 'Excepting the reviewers themselves,' asks a sensitive member of the Guild, 'who is there that reads reports on Correspondence?' There are a few others. There are certain brethren in every jurisdiction who read Proceedings, having a purpose to keep thoroughly posted in the movements of the Craft in all its departments; these gladly turn the pages of reports on Correspondence to note the evidences of progress in the Fraternity, and also to trace the views expressed by intelligent reviewers touching questions of Masonic law and procedure. Writers of reports when they are doing their work may well keep in mind such a class. They are sufficiently numerous to animate us to do our best—to give the assurance that our labor will be appreciated, at least by a faithful few, according to its deserving.

“The usefulness of Correspondence reports does not, however, mainly depend upon their present reading. It is well to have such reports prepared and preserved for future reference. Thought, study, reading, are called for in the summarizing of information, the setting forth of timely statements, and the furnishing of appropriate suggestions, that so constant additions may be made to Masonic history, and numerous sign posts be placed to mark the progress of the organic life of our great Fraternity. Correspondence reports are not without value in such a line of service.”

A kindly review of Canada for 1903 is included. Noting in a certain jurisdiction that it had been decided “that a ball or assembly of any kind cannot be held in the name of a Chapter without a dispensation,” he observes:

“Was ever a dispensation for such an entertainment refused? Our thought is that Masonic balls should be held only under the warrant of a dispensation, and that they should not be too frequent occasions. Freemasonry does not exist for the providing of entertainments. Least of all does it accord with the fitness of things that the Capitular branch of the organization should be a frequent purveyor of amusements.”

From his closing remarks we extract the following, which we commend to the close attention of those of our Canadian readers who may be, or have been, attracted by the will-o'-the-wisp fascinations of more modern orders and degrees, which are invariably enshrined in a glittering setting of the paste variety:

“Capitular Masonry justifies all the attention it receives from its followers. It is a mine of instruction for all who explore its recesses and diligently seek to gather its rich treasures. It has a brightly illumined history, a prestige and a glory peculiarly its own, and it contains so much of philosophy and of moral teaching as of right to claim a foremost place in the Masonic system.

“Under the rule which provides that only Royal Arch Masons are eligible for admission into the Templar Order, Capitular Masonry has an assured position. And this is well; but it should be kept in mind that the Royal Arch system has much to commend it in the things of intrinsic interest and value, and is deservedly of higher rank and honor than some esteem it who have from necessity taken the Chapter degrees as a means to a desired end.”

“They who have gone forward in search of Masonic light, acquiring membership in numerous Rites and Orders, should never forget their heritage in Royal Arch Masonry, which by its history and its symbolism is inseparable from the ancient Craft system.”

Chas. B. Manchester, Providence, Grand High Priest
 Wm. R. Greene, Providence, Grand Secretary.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Chapters . . 22

Members . . 818

Grand Secretary Barron, who as Correspondent directed attention to Canada's failure to recognize South Carolina's advancement, is hereby notified that the writer, on behalf of that extensive jurisdiction, admits the corn, and thus hastens to repair the seeming injustice. It is with genuine satisfaction that the visible and healthy growth of the "Palmettos" is observed from afar, and in case of any future defect in the Canadian vision the hope is now registered that the said growth may never again be retarded.

A net gain of 108 in membership and two new Chapters is not a bad showing. Yet, to the Ninety-first Annual Convocation in Charleston on the 11th February, 1902, the Grand Secretary said:

"Generally speaking, there seems to be more real stability in our Chapters than was the case some years since, although we have but few really prosperous Chapters. A number are making slight gains, while some are struggling to keep up with the procession; but they do not drop out, as formerly. So far as the returns show, every Chapter on our roll has done some work during the past year, and the future can not be said to look discouraging."

Grand High Priest John R. Bellinger, who represents the Grand Chapters of Canada in his jurisdiction, remarked on the growth and prosperity of the Royal Craft as a subject of congratulation:

"At the beginning of the year, I set out with the full determination to visit many of the Subordinate Chapters, but I have found it well nigh impossible to do so."

"At my request, however, our ever willing Grand Secretary has, with others, visited many of the Chapters and rendered them far more efficient service than I could have done."

"As it was in the beginning," etc. He was only call-

ed upon to render one decision, and that was to the effect that it is not necessary for one to have filled the office of King or Scribe to make him eligible to the office of High Priest; that any member in good standing is so eligible. And as this was South Carolina law, it was concurred in by the South Carolina "jurists."

He was glad to report that "our Grand Representatives seem more active in their attendance upon the Annual Convocations of their respective Grand Chapters than formerly." The reviewer, however, is prompt to notice that the South Carolina representative in Canada is an absentee.

The business before Grand Chapter was soon disposed of. Companion Barron's review of the Chapters is in his usual careful and racy style. Canada for 1901 was under his eye, and he expresses admiration for its system of superintendence. He noticed that the effort to restore the Most Excellent Master's Degree, in its entirety, failed, and remarked: "We regret this, and predict that the question will again come to the front."

"Slowly upon the amber air unrolled
The falling mantle of the Prophet seems."

J. Edwin McDonald, Winnesboro', Grand High Priest.

Jacob T. Barron, Columbia, Grand Secretary.

SOUTH DAKOTA

Chapters . . 29

Members . . 1,784

A handsome illustrated volume is the record of the proceedings of the Fourteenth Annual Convocation, which assembled in Deadwood on the 11th June, 1903. Grand High Priest Ames dubs it the "City of Mills," the commercial and financial centre of the historic Black Hills. How that great country "do grow."

"As we look about us, we behold one of the finest monuments to Masonic genius ever erected in our State. This temple is a grand edifice, and as long as Masonry shall exist, it will re-

main as an enduring evidence of the enterprise of our Deadwood Brothers and Companions.

They say that open confession is good for the soul, and this Grand High Priest, whose every waking moment was spent in wrestling with business cares, was not afraid to confess:

"I hoped that fortune would favor me and enable me to be an actual, not a nominal, head to this Grand Chapter. I never shirk a duty, and am not a lover of ease, and to my death I shall ever regret that I could not travel among you, work, and receive the Craftsman's wages. I had planned to visit every Chapter in the State, but to save my life I could not arrange my business to permit it. I do not feel that I should be censured for dereliction."

Dispensation for a new Chapter was issued, and Grand Secretary Pettigrew reported a net gain of 61.

The Grand Lecturer was appointed a committee of one to see that one of the Capitular degrees is exemplified at the next Grand Annual Convocation. As with the great majority, this jurisdiction had no grievances and no appeals.

On recommendation of the Committee on Rituals, an appropriation of two hundred dollars for the publication of a manual and the test lectures for the use of the Chapters was agreed to.

M. E. Companion Levoy writes the Correspondence report. He was prevented from attending Grand Chapter by reason of sickness in his family. He thinks Canada did a wise thing in deciding to rehabilitate the M. E. M. Degree:

"He quotes from the conclusion of our report and comments: 'And to dependent membership legislation he attributes it all.' Well, Comp. Bennett ought to be satisfied as long as we do not claim that their last year's increase of 477 came from this source. Although it is possible that if they adopted the measure in Canada it might lessen the heavy suspension and withdrawal list which we note is so heavy this year. An appeal to 'Horatio' might then be more effective.'"

It is observed that in his conclusion he pays an eloquent tribute to the departed and much regretted M. E.

Companion Drummond, of Maine, closing with these words:

“His monument will be the hearts of his brethren in all branches of Masonry, and after their call comes to join the caravan, his writings will endure as his monument for the guidance of future generations of Craftsmen, who will want to view, as we have done, the deep designs drawn upon his tracing board.”

We have said our say upon this dependent membership question, and it evidently has not convinced Companion Levoy, but the words of him who has gone will not have been written in vain, and they will endure, as our good Companion says, “for the guidance of future generations of Craftsmen.” Here is an extract from the written views of the lamented Drummond on dependent membership:

“We are extremely jealous of any interference with Symbolic Masonry from any other source whatever. It is amply able to take care of itself; but more than all that, if these other bodies are allowed to interfere for what they may deem to be a benefit to it, they may hereafter interfere on the same ground with what Symbolic Masonry itself may not deem to be for its benefit, and therefore it is that we object absolutely to the ‘higher bodies’ undertaking to do anything avowedly for the benefit of the Lodge.

“We further object to it because it makes mere pecuniary considerations the controlling feature in our Masonic polity. We regard the prominence now given to those considerations as an immense departure from the original plan of Masonry, a departure in utter conflict with the fundamental principles of the Institution. We require the aspirant for our mysteries to declare that he is not influenced by selfish or mercenary motives, but when he once gets in we say to him, We want many things of you, but the only indispensable thing is his money! What wonder that the zeal of many of our initiates soon cools!”

True as gospel, and should be convincing, but the chances are that Companion Levoy may be inclined to take refuge in the fact that he does not belong to a future generation, or he may offer some such specious argument as that submitted by him to Companion Montgomery, of Minnesota:

“But his explanation does not explain; at least, we can’t get it right. It is possibly because we are so imbued with the idea that the dependent membership doctrine is so true and necessary for the welfare of Capitular Masonry that we cannot realize that in any other manner can justice be done this branch of Masonry

than by making those who have used it for a purpose do their share in maintaining it, not altogether in a financial sense, but by their membership and counsel assist its development to the plane it should occupy with Symbolic Masonry."

"Look here upon this picture and on this." The late Companion Drummond declared it harmful. Companion Levoy says it is necessary. Which?

Samuel H. Jumper, Aberdeen, Grand High Priest.

Geo. A. Pettigrew, Sioux Falls, Grand Secretary.

TENNESSEE

Chapters .. 71

Members .. 2,919

The Seventy-fourth Annual Convocation was held in the Masonic Temple, in the City of Nashville, on Monday, January 26, 1903.

While two Chapters were added and over a hundred increase in membership, the learned three who comprised the Committee on Jurisprudence found time to agree with the Grand High Priest "that the state of the Order is not such as to elicit congratulations, and, therefore, earnestly insist that each Subordinate Body put forth strenuous efforts this year. Let each determine to bend every energy in promoting this noble and glorious cause."

Grand High Priest Shields, in June, issued a dispensation to nine Companions at Dyersburg to form a Chapter, and the rather unusual sudden collapse of the enterprise is summed up in a few words:

"This Chapter failed to materialize; and after several unsuccessful attempts to get a quorum to organize, they threw up the sponge and surrendered their dispensation."

He received a communication from a Chapter, asking if they could receive and act upon a petition of a brother who had lost his left arm. He answered that if he could receive and impart the ritual they could; otherwise they could not.

Why he put it that way is difficult to comprehend. As

the brother could not comply with the requirements, there should have been but one reply.

Notice of the serious illness of Companion Bun. F. Price, of Memphis, having reached Grand Chapter, the Grand Secretary was directed to communicate to him by telegram its sympathy in his sore affliction.

A recommendation that all balances in the hands of the Grand Treasurer after expenses shall have been met be turned over to the Endowment Commissioners of the Masonic Widows and Orphans' Home Fund, was adopted.

The following resolution was adopted:

“Whereas there are in this Grand Jurisdiction sixty-nine dead Chapters and thirty-eight counties in which there are no Chapters; and,

“Whereas, there are about 3,500 non-affiliates in the State; be it

“*Resolved*, That the Subordinate Chapters of this Grand Jurisdiction be asked to consider the advisability of appointing a Grand Lecturer and to instruct their Representatives at the next Grand Chapter how to vote on the proposition.”

“So deeply immersed in professional engagements” did Companion Ingersoll find himself that he turned the job of reviewing the proceedings of Grand Chapter over to another, who produced a brief report, Companion Ingersoll contributing a concluding chapter on the themes, suitable proficiency in preceding degrees and rotation in office. To the absence of the former and adherence to the latter he attributed much of the apathy and indifference which characterized the working in the various Chapters:

“Men value that which is dearly bought. It is not the open door, but the barred one, which excites the curiosity of men; and we shall preserve the respect of the world for Ancient Freemasonry by maintaining its lofty standard of excellence. Craft Masons will cease to aspire to the Royal Arch when they learn it may be obtained without additional effort or merit; and they will not be slow to measure its merits by the effort required.”

“In our business relations and affairs we do not hesitate to choose the man best fitted for the place we have to fill; no custom dominates us here, no soft sentimentality enchains us in its

slavery; with courage we select the best material and install it in its proper place. May we not with equal propriety pursue the same course in Lodge or Chapter? Nay, should we not do so on all occasions? Is that not the part of genuine manhood? Is it not the duty of intelligent Freemasonry?"

Geo. P. Chandler, Knoxville, Grand High Priest.

Wm. A. Clendening, Nashville, Grand Secretary.

TEXAS

Chapters .. 156

Members .. 7,868

Grand High Priest Phillips opened his address to the Fifty-third Annual Convocation at Houston on 2nd December, with a touching reference to the deaths of Grand Secretary Lopas and Past Grand High Priests W. F. Swain and S. J. Morris.

Two dispensations for new Chapters were issued, and three others he held over. He was kept busy making decisions.

The Grand Visitors in most cases did their work faithfully. In one instance domestic affliction interfered, and in another "business":

"I had two very pressing calls from Colorado Chapter to come and teach them a school, but I found it impossible at both times to leave home, and I think that when one gets too busy to attend to his Masonic duties, the M. E. High Priest ought to get some one to attend to them for him."

One hundred dollars was voted to the aged indigent widow of a Past Grand High Priest sometime deceased and who in his lifetime had been a pillar in Grand Chapter.

It was resolved that the number of Grand Visitors' districts be increased from thirteen to fifteen, to conform to the number of congressional districts, and the said districts' jurisdiction be the same as the congressional.

The Grand Orator delivered an instructive address on "the Book of the Law":

“Would you have a true knowledge and proper understanding of Masonry? Then you must study the book of the law of Masonry. Would you be an accomplished Mason, having your life ornamented and adorned with those internal qualifications which are at once the credentials of nobility on earth and in heaven? In no other way may you attain them than by a reverent study of God’s word.”

For the ninth time Companion John L. Terrell furnished the Correspondence report, and reviewed Canada for 1902 in his usual generous manner. He is an advocate of dependent membership, and in that respect is “agin the government”:

“It appears that the law of the Grand Chapter and the Grand Lodge of Michigan is that ‘No member shall be permitted to dimit from the Chapter of which he is a member until he shall present a certificate from some Chapter that he has petitioned for membership and been elected therein.’

“Wherefore it would appear that there are but two ways to get out—die, or join another Chapter. Let those who prate of ‘compulsory membership’ turn their venom loose on Michigan. We like dependent membership, but not compulsion after the manner of our Michigan brethren.”

A distinction without a difference. Read the late Companion Drummond on the *dependent* phase of the “union label” in Masonry.

J. M. Strayhorn, Waco, Grand High Priest.

John A. Bryan, Cleburne, Grand Secretary.

VERMONT

Chapters .. 28

Members .. 3,332

The Green Mountain State, so far as Capitular Masonry is concerned, enjoyed a twelvemonth of rare peace and prosperity, and Grand High Priest Boyce occupied but a brief few moments in detailing his official acts to the Eighty-sixth Annual Convocation, at Burlington, on the 12th June, 1903.

He granted several special dispensations empowering the Chapters applying, to receive and ballot on applications without waiting the necessary time, in each case

requiring them to give due and ample notice to all resident members.

He was not called upon to make any decisions during the year, and no case of grievance had been brought to his knowledge, and, so far as he knew, peace and prosperity prevailed in this Grand Jurisdiction.

He pointed out that the compensation of the Grand Secretary was far below the average paid by other jurisdictions of equal strength and financial ability. It was evident that the work of the Grand Secretary has reached such magnitude as to require his continual services.

The district visitations were faithfully performed and the reports thereon of much interest, as also was that of the Grand Lecturer.

Six jewels were procured for as many Past Grand High Priests at the average price of \$55.50 each.

A petition signed by nineteen Companions praying for a dispensation to open and hold a regular Chapter at Richford was presented.

The Finance Committee recommended that Grand Chapter make a further loan of \$1,000 to the Grand Lodge of Vermont under the same conditions as the previous loans, now amounting to \$8,000.

“With fraternal salutations to one and all,” M. E. Companion Marsh O. Perkins presented his report on Correspondence, a compilation well worth perusal. Canada for 1903 received his close attention to the extent of three pages:

“The exhaustive reports of the District Superintendents again attest to the high degree of efficiency of the district system of supervision, as developed in this jurisdiction, and show that nearly every Chapter had been officially inspected. Now and then a failure is reported, but not because of lack of zeal on the part of the superintendents, one of whom travelled upwards of 200 miles, only to find no quorum. No chapters of instruction or district meetings were held, but this oversight will probably not be reported another year.”

William S. Terrill, Rutland, Grand High Priest.

Henry H. Ross, Burlington, Grand Secretary.

VICTORIA

“At a convocation holden at Freemasons’ Hall, Collins street, Melbourne, on Wednesday, October, 16th, 1901,” we find that Grand Chapter was opened “in Antient and Solemn Form.” Our own Companion J. D’Amer Drew was among the Grand Representatives present.

Among the accounts passed was one for “blowing organ, 5s.”

At this convocation the Most Excellent Master Degree seems to have obtained full recognition, and regulations concerning its status were adopted.

At the January quarterly following the Grand Z. presided.

The V. E. the Grand Scribe E. read a communication from the M. E. the First Grand Principal, stating that he had conferred the rank of P. G. Z. on R. E. Comp. A. B. Templeman, P.G.H., Australasian Chapter, No. 1.

It was decided that with a view to insuring greater uniformity, the Committee of General Purposes arrange for an exemplification of the work at a Quarterly Convocation at least once in every year.

Arrangements for the delivery of lectures upon subjects relating or akin to Capitular Freemasonry, by Companions of ability, at one or more Quarterly Convocations in each year, were also to be effected.

At the April Quarterly, there being only one nomination for the office of First Grand Principal, M. E. Comp. the Hon. A. J. Peacock was declared duly elected to that position for the ensuing twelve months.

The organ was blown again in July to the old tune of five shillings.

A resolution was carried, congratulating the M. E. the First Grand Principal on behalf of the R. A. Freemasons of Victoria on the honor of Knighthood conferred upon him by His Majesty the King.

At a special convocation in July the Grand Z. set the Most Excellent ball a-rolling. He requested all Most Excellent Masters present to produce their certificates or other documentary evidence as such, and the V. E. the Grand Scribe E. thereupon opened a Register of Most Excellent Masters under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, and seventeen Most Excellent Masters having produced the necessary documentary evidence, their names were recorded in such Register.

The M. E. the First Grand Principal then requested those Most Excellent Masters whose names had been recorded on such Register to constitute and form a Lodge of Most Excellent Masters for the purpose of conferring that degree upon all members of Grand Chapter present who might desire to become Most Excellent Masters, and for the purpose of constituting and forming such Lodge the M. E. the First Grand Principal then called off Grand Chapter.

The Hon. Sir A. J. Peacock, Melbourne, Grand Z.

John Braim, Melbourne, Grand Scribe E.

VIRGINIA

Chapters . . 43

Members . . 3,398

“In rendering to you an account of my administration, I am happy in being able to report that never in the history of our Grand Jurisdiction has a more perfect state of harmony existed, both at home and abroad.”

To the Ninety-fifth Annual Convocation, in November, 1902, at Richmond, spake M. E. Comp. W. J. Hubbard, Grand High Priest.

He deplored the death of an intimate friend and Companion, Past Grand High Priest Jacob Bumgardner:

“This death is peculiarly distressing to me, as to this beloved Companion I am indebted for all my knowledge of the standard work of Virginia, as are many others. He also endeared himself to all with whom he came in contact, for his amiability and courteousness.

“To him is due the highest praise for the efficient promulga-

tion of our beautiful ritual, and for the conspicuous example of what a Mason should be—"an upright and perfect man." Let us all strive to follow in his footsteps."

"The Companions throughout the State have become so familiar with the Methodical Digest, as to be able to decide all points of law for themselves," and he was left quietly to himself in this regard, for which he expressed gratitude.

But in other respects he was active. He visited every Chapter in his jurisdiction during the year. A proud record.

He acceded to a petition for a dispensation to open and hold a Royal Arch Chapter at the town of South Boston, Halifax County, signed by nine Royal Arch Masons.

The Grand Secretary reported that "of the 43 Chapters on our roll 41 report exaltations during the year, an exhibition of activity that has never been excelled in the history of this Grand Chapter."

In addition to the numerous visitations of the Grand High Priest, who, as Grand Lecturer, like Pooh Bah, reported them in detail in the latter capacity, the Chapters were looked after by the D. D. G. High Priests, who also reported.

Companion Chas. A. Nesbitt, of the Correspondence Committee, presented the report, which, as before, is mainly extract. It did not include Canada.

Joseph V. Bidgood, Richmond, Grand High Priest.

Jas. B. Blanks, Fredericksburg, Grand Secretary.

WASHINGTON

Chapters .. 24

Members .. 1,797

Heavy indeed was the blow which descended on this fair jurisdiction by the blue Pacific and contiguous to our own province on the north. On June 7, 1902, the M. E. Grand High Priest, Jacob Weatherwax was installed.

On July 31 following he was with his Heavenly Father. He died at the age of 61, of bronchial pneumonia.

Deputy Grand High Priest J. N. Prather presided over the Nineteenth Annual Convocation at Seattle, on June 15, 1903.

Having referred to the lamentable circumstances under which he assumed the chief authority, he alluded to what he terms "the most noted Masonic event that has ever taken place in this State":

"A year ago, more or less, the brethren of Tacoma resolved to build for themselves a house. In due time they procured a desirable site and began the work.

"About this time they learned that the President of the United States would visit them on May 22; they wisely made provision for laying the corner-stone, and had all things in readiness. The President, Brother Roosevelt, deemed it a privilege to get down with the common laborer and spread the cement which unites the building into one common whole. His act was emblematical of what he most desires: that Brotherly Love may reign supreme, not only among us brother Masons, but throughout and beyond the confines of this great country of ours."

He granted a dispensation for a new Chapter at Davenport, but left it to Grand Chapter to consider a petition from Companions at Ballard.

The following was among his decisions:

"The family of a member of Glenwood Lodge, No. 28, F. & A. M., B. C., moved to Sprague more than a year previous to his application for Chapter degrees. He completed his engagements in B. C., joined his family the last of June, and desired to know if it was necessary for him to get a waiver of jurisdiction from Rossland Chapter before petitioning for degrees in Sprague Chapter.

To which he answered: "Not necessary for him to get waiver from Rossland, B.C.," referring to Sec. 14 of the Grand Chapter By-laws.

It appears that the possession of a wife and family, although the latter is not regarded as important, affects the position of an applicant in this jurisdiction, and that the situation may be understood, particularly as Canada

is to some extent interested, the section referred to is given herewith:

“Sec. 14. Qualifications of Candidates. Every candidate for the Chapter degrees must be a Master Mason in good standing and a member of a Lodge, and have resided in the State of Washington twelve months, and in the jurisdiction of the Chapter at least six months next preceding the presentation of his petition, and possessing no maims or defects in his body that may render him incapable of conforming literally to what the several degrees respectively require of him. He must be a natural man, and not one made of wood or cork, or substance other than human flesh or bone. Each applicant for advancement must possess sufficient knowledge of the preceding degrees to make himself well known. Provided, That the question of residence referred to in this section shall not apply to unmarried seafaring men or persons who are and have been in the United States naval or military service for one year next preceding the application. A married man's residence is fixed by the residence of his family, regardless of where his occupation may take him. Provided further, Applications may be received from persons living outside of the State of Washington, consent of the Chapter having jurisdiction over such candidates first being obtained.”

In another case, a Port Townsend Chapter asked for a special dispensation to receive a petition at a called convocation, to act upon the same at the same meeting, and confer the degrees. “Candidate is a member of Friendship Lodge, No. 158, New South Wales; is anxious to receive the Chapter degrees in this Chapter, will be here with his vessel only about a month. It will be a long time ere he can return here again for these reasons. He is anxious that we should get a dispensation so that he can get through before he sails again.” He replied:

“I am very much opposed to undue haste in acting upon petitions for degrees, for in my judgment it is not to the best interests of our great Fraternity to do so, but if the E. High Priest, King and Scribe of your Chapter can vouch for the brother as being suitable material in every particular, I grant the dispensation. Please call their attention to this matter at once that they may exercise their best judgment in the advancement of their Chapter, and the Order, in this Grand Jurisdiction, zealously and fraternally.”

“As the officers declined to proceed, my letter was returned me and instead of regrets they expressed themselves satisfied with my action.”

The Grand Secretary reported a net gain of 212 for the year. An indication of progress surely.

On motion the Grand Secretary was instructed to inquire of the General Grand High Priest per registered mail the position of the square and compasses upon the altar, and should there be a triangle used upon the altar or not.

The Grand Orator, from whom, of course, something inspiring was expected, wired to the effect that he was detained "at the last moment" from attendance at Grand Chapter.

Companion Blalock, the worthy Grand Secretary, submitted his usual "all scissors" review of the Grand Chapters:

"There are two reasons we assign for not changing our system: First, that our Grand Chapter would not allow the expense for us to say what we think; second, that should we once get to 'talking,' our Companions of the 'Guild' would be sure to name us after the animal with the long ears and a loud voice, hence we will not place ourselves in such a position."

John N. Prather, Seattle, Grand High Priest.

Yancey C. Blalock, Grand Secretary.

WEST VIRGINIA

Chapters .. 27

Members .. 2,533

The City of Fairmont was honored with the Thirty-second Annual Convocation, on the 11th November, 1902, and at High Twelve Grand Chapter was opened, Cyrus S. McKenzie, M. E. Grand High Priest, presiding.

"It was my hope, when elected to the office of Grand High Priest, to visit many of the Chapters in the State, but illness and business affairs have prevented my carrying out many of my plans."

One is disposed to wonder why there are some who do not decline the high office when it so frequently brings in its train affliction of some kind, or additional business cares, or, as above, both. It is certainly peculiar how often these things interfere with the good intentions of

the Companion *after* he is clothed with the dignity of chief ruler. The very frequency of the plea one would fancy would be a deterrent, but it isn't. Why? Because the committee to which is referred the doings of Grand Officers invariably reports:

“We congratulate our Most Excellent Grand High Priest upon the efficiency displayed in the administration of his office and his zeal for Capitular Masonry.”

And in consideration of his display of zeal a jewel was voted to the outgoing G. H. P.

At the time that the Grand Chapter of West Virginia was formed on November 16th, 1871, Companion Timothy W. Bliss tiled its door, but death summoned him, and he is now within the celestial portals:

“His absence from our Outer Door for the first time in thirty-three years will cause profound sorrow in our midst.”

Only one Chapter had called upon the Grand Lecturer for instruction during the year.

The Correspondence Committee recommended that recognition of New Zealand be deferred.

A “dependent membership” resolution was adopted, and the “blue label” is now affixed to West Virginia.

Companion John W. Weymouth succeeded the lamented Hugh Stirling as chairman of the Correspondence Committee. He is a Companion of experience, and as such has no use for the Grand Representative system. Canada receives three paces of kindly attention. He is a welcome acquisition to the guild.

David K. Reed, Clarksburg, Grand High Priest.

R. C. Dunnington, Fairmont, Grand Secretary.

WISCONSIN

Chapters . . 77

Members . . 6,842

At Milwaukee, on February 17, 1903, the Fifty-third Annual Convocation was opened with seventy-three of the Chapters represented.

Grand High Priest E. S. Veeder announced that the net gain in membership during the past year has been 367; while the average net gain per year for the ten years preceding the last has been 132.

He instituted a new Chapter at Marshfield under favorable auspices.

The death of Past Grand High Priest and Past Grand Master Melvin L. Youngs, who so long and faithfully filled the office of Grand Lecturer for this Grand Body, was feelingly alluded to:

“Upon his death there were found among his effects forty-nine bound and two hundred unbound copies of this cipher, and the plates for printing the same, all of which are in the possession of the Grand Secretary.

“His representatives prefer a claim against the Grand Chapter for one hundred and fifty dollars in full for the articles mentioned. It seems to me that it will be best to comply with this demand, which I am led to believe is not unreasonable in amount, and we will thereby become the owners of the plates and the right to have the printing done, if at all, on behalf of this Grand Body, and secure whatever revenue may be derived therefrom.”

Owing to the Grand Secretary's “multitudinous duties” rendering it impossible for him to give the attention which the membership demands to the many details of his office during Grand Convocation, he deemed it necessary to appoint an assistant, who received \$25.

If he visited any of the Chapters during his term except the new one, he omitted to mention the fact. He was voted a jewel.

Fifty dollars was voted to the widow of a Past Grand High Priest.

The Committee to whom was referred the matter of looking up and accommodating visitors reported that they had looked faithfully and carefully for visitors and had to report that they had found none.

Most of the business before Grand Chapter was of purely local interest, and everything was harmonious.

Past Grand High Priest Swain is again to the fore

with an admirable report on Correspondence, in which Canada for 1902 is included, and generously dealt with.

To him of Connecticut who on the matter of legislating the saloon-keeper out, had said, "We do not deem any special legislation on that subject necessary, as the black ball is an effective safeguard," he rejoined in approval:

"The closing sentence gives the very reason why there should be no such legislation. The moment we begin to make laws, we are confronted with the question of where the saloonkeeper begins, and that is a very vague one. No one would dispute the propriety of keeping out the ordinary keeper of a low groggery, and Lodges can be trusted for that. But the question ranges all the way from that up to the proprietor of the Waldorf-Astoria, or the book-keeper in a large brewery."

To a Kansas comment that a Companion who cannot confer a degree is a failure as a ruler, he replies, and we agree from experience:

"There are exceptions. It does not follow because a man is not a good ritualist he takes no interest. We have known splendid men of affairs who were utterly incapable of learning ritual, or intelligently communicating it, who could preside over a body and look well after its interests, but had to call in help when degrees were to be conferred."

T. J. Pereles, Milwaukee, Grand High Priest.

W. W. Perry, Milwaukee, Grand Secretary.

CONCLUSION

One is tempted to the belief, after a perusal of the proceedings of our Sister Grand Chapters, that the absorption of the principles of the glorious old Craft is being demonstrated year after year in the remarkable absence of those internal dissensions which were wont to characterize the Chapters and Companions and which found revelation and publicity under "Grievances and Appeals." Masonic tenets arrayed against frail humanity appear to have had a long but successful contest, and the fact that judicial committees in all the jurisdictions of a vast continent have reported lack of employment is fairly indicative that the golden rule is,

through the teachings of the fraternity, finding an abiding place in the hearts of the brethren.

“ 'Tis a consummation devoutly to be wished.”

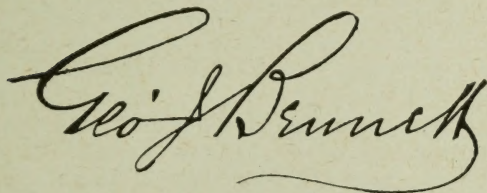
An Irish poetaster and entertainer, one of the public's idols of a generation ago, now, alas, waiting in the dreary obscurity of a workhouse for the silver cord to be loosed, gave expression to the beautiful sentiment in words that will live when the gifted but frail victim of his own folly is mingled with the dust.

“Let each man learn to know himself,
To gain that knowledge let him labor;
Improve those failings in himself
Which he condemns so in his neighbor.

And if you meet an erring one
Whose deeds are blameable and thoughtless,
Consider, ere you cast the stone,
If you yourself be pure and faultless.

Example sheds a brilliant ray,
A light that men are apt to borrow,
So first improve yourself to-day
And then reprove your friend to-morrow.”

Fraternally submitted,

A large, elegant handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Geo. J. Brunch". The signature is written in dark ink and features a prominent, sweeping flourish at the end.

Chairman.

Grand Lodge Library



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